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Portugal's National Newspaper in English

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Inconsistent weather patterns continue
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Portuguese Met Office.

Car club slams Galp's low-cost prices

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Portuguese 'OK' with

A new report by the UN has revealed that while the majority of Portuguese are satisfied with their jobs and personal health, more than half of the population are not happy with their daily routines. (See Page 8)

Doing business gets

Doing business in Portugal is becoming increasingly easier according to an annual global report, which compares the business practices and procedures of around 183 countries across the world. (See Page 13)

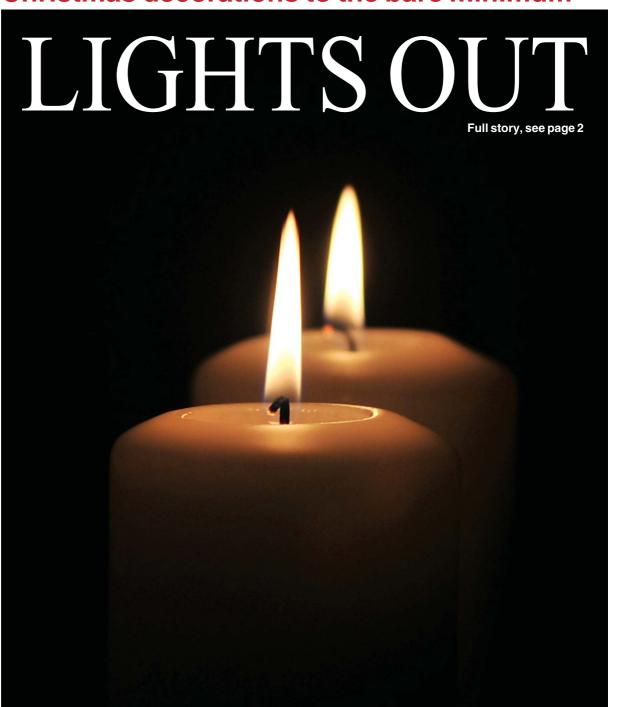
Tame Benfica thrashed by brilliant

Defending Portuguese champions looked anything like the country's best football team over the weekend as they were systematically taken apart by bitter rivals FC Porto in a 5-0 drubbing. (See Page 64)

Weekend weather
Lisbon: Rain is set to
make a return this
weekend in the capital.
The weather will clear at
the start of the week,
though thermometers
are set to resemble
wintery conditions with
minimums falling to
single-figures. Algarve:
Rain is forecast in the
south this Sunday, but as
is the case in Lisbon, the
clearing skies will bring
with them colder
temperatures with
maximums not expected
to pass the 15-degree
mark on Monday and
Tuesday. North: The
north will be cold and
wet, with thermometers
struggling to pass 13



Town halls across the country reduce Christmas decorations to the bare minimum





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Lights out

Brendan de Beer

While the Portuguese capital is by far the biggest spender on decorations this year with a budget of €846,000, this total is around 20% under what was spent in 2009.

Lisbon's famous giant Christ-mas tree, once Europe's biggest, which is usually erected at the top of the Parque Eduardo XII, another victim of the crisis and will this year not be looking down at the statue of Marquês de Pombal or the Tagus River in the distance.

Cascais, arguably the nation's wealthiest council per capita, has slashed its budget by 68% to a figure of just €70,000.

In Oporto, the cuts are in the region of 70%, falling from a figure last year that topped €300,000 to one in 2010 that will struggle past €100,000. The cut is even more notable when compared with spending two years ago, when £500,000 was used from coffers containing revenue obtained from council taxes to decorate the city.

Albufeira, renowned in the Algarve for its extravagance in years gone by in celebrating Christmas and New Year, will only be spending a quarter of what it did 12 months ago, with a budget this year of €70,000.

The decision has been ex-

plained to constituents as being one of necessity, with Mayor Desidério Silva saying his priorities lie elsewhere, such as in areas of social welfare for Albufeira residents and education.

Lights in this Algarve city will be switched on during the first few days of December the mayor was reported as saying this

The crisis has taken its toll on Christmas in a number of areas this festive season. While shoppers are cutting back on their expenditure on gifts, town halls across the country have imposed widespread cuts on Christmas decorations. Some cities have even elected not to adorn their streets with any lights at all, as was the case in Benavente, outside Santarém, where a Facebook page calling for no decorations whatsoever was enough to convince the council to opt for a Christmas blackout. Similarly, even sprawling metropolitan areas, such as Loures and Palmela will not be spending a cent on decorations this festive season.

In cash-strapped Faro, cuts on Christmas lights amount to 40% of last year's expenditure, having in 2009 already halved the festive season spending in re-lation to the year before.

Faro Mayor Macário Correia admitted that he will look at additional cuts in 2011, saying that limiting decorations to the town square is a distinct possibility, a scenario which is already a realfor a number of towns and

villages this year. Unperturbed at a potential backlash from constituents accustomed to a party atmosphere in the Algarve capital, Macário Correia told Lusa News Agency it is "more important to feed the hungry than it is to spend money on fireworks"

Portimão, however, as has become customary in recent years, is looking to defy the adverse effects of the crisis, saying it has maintained its budget at €200,000, which is double that of much bigger cities such as Oporto and Coimbra.

The town hall has justified its apparent lavishness by explaining the money will not be spent uniquely on decorations, but will also be used in organising events in downtown Portimão in support of small traders and tradi-

Businesses pull out all stops to encourage seasonal spending Carrie-Marie Bratley

Town Halls across the country may have slashed their budgets for Christmas trimmings, but business associations from key areas of Portugal have taken it upon themselves to pull out all stops to entice reluctant spenders to visit and shop in places of traditional commerce such as downtown Lisbon and Oporto's city centre.
Street entertainment, public

shows, cheaper parking and lots of discounts are the tactics being applied to attract Christmas shoppers to areas of traditional

It is hoped that by implementing the attractions it will in some way help ease the tightening of purse-strings expected for the

upcoming festive season. "We have been developing an entertainment plan for the city to captivate people so they'll choose traditional outlets for their shopping", said Nuno Camilo, president of the Oporto Traders' Association.

He added that, in his opinion, local shop owners "are of the perception that, with unemployment rising and the general cost of living going up next year, there will be a reduction in consump tion"

"The solution that we have been defending for a long time is that people should buy, especially national products, to increase employment in Portugal and in turn increase the flow of commercial transactions

Downtown Lisbon is also to invest in street entertainment to

attract shoppers.
Manuel Sousa Lopes, president of the Baixa's Traders' Association, told Lusa News Agency, "The association is preparing some events in collaboration with Lisbon Town Hall to, as well as having lights, also have entertainment to attract shop-

In Setúbal entertainment will take place mainly in the city's historic areas, organised in cooperation with cultural entities.

"We are going to prepare vari-

ous street shows for the month of December to draw in consumers and to ease feeling the effects of measures like the rise in tax, which will lower spending power", said Francisco Carriço, head of the Setubal Traders' Association, echoing the views of his counterparts.

However, in the Algarve, the mood seems to be one of defeat and helplessness.

"Traders are feeling impo-tent", said João Rosado, president of the Regional Algarve Association for Commerce and

"Given the current set of economic circumstances, competition from large retail centres, cutbacks in investment from local councils for livening up city centres and Christmas lights, these factors make the prospects for this Christmas very worrying", he concluded.

João Rosado added that, taking into account "commerce is fighting for survival, not only for sustenance", the most affected sectors will be those that are in competition with large retail centres, from restaurants to footwear and clothing shops.

Another concern is "the opening of hypermarkets on Sunday [afternoons] will also cause a re duction in [local] shopping this

Meanwhile consumer sup port associations within the financial sector have guaranteed that this Christmas will be one of frugality.

While in some cases, because of the economic circumstances, people are becoming thriftier and more responsible with their spending, other more impulsive citizens who are caught up by the trappings and trimmings of Christmas, may opt to take out another instant loan oruse their credit card and spend money that, in reality, they don't have.

Associations such as consumer rights watchdog DECO and the Association for Institu-tions of Specialised Credit (ASFAC) told Lusa that many

families over the past years have become embedded in debt and end up having to ask for help in resolving the problem.

"If people intend giving presents then they should make a list with the names of people they are going to give a gift to, stipulate a budget and try to find gifts within the price-range they have set", recommended Natália Nunes, coordinator of DECO's debt-advice bureau.

Speaking to Lusa News Agency, ASFAC gave exactly the same advice and urged those who are not in a position to of-fer gifts to "just give affection" as "that is the essence of Christmas"

Susana Albuquerque, ASFAC Secretary General revealed: "This year we have verified a drop in families taking out loans, which shows responsibility in the matter. This data leads to predict that, during the third quarter [of this year] there will not be a significant rise in families resorting to credit, particularly if we take into account that the imminent future will be one of making savings."
DECO reinforced that theory

by explaining many families have changed their spending habits and savings have increased.

In some cases, families are making their own presents to give. In other cases, where priority is given to children and presents are bought, promotions and discounts offered in hypermarkets are taken advantage of.
In related news, it has been

calculated that this year Portuguese consumers will spend an average of €575 this Christmas. a six percent reduction in comparison to last year.
The findings were made ina

study by consultancy company Deloitte, released this week.

Deloitte concluded that financial difficulties and austerity measures adopted by the Gov-ernment have caused the Portuguese to reduce their festive season budget. Nonetheless, Portugal's Christmas-budget-restric-

tions have been inferior to those experienced in other countries, namely Greece and Ireland

According to the Xmas Survey 2010, capping on festive expenditure in Greece and Ireland saw budgets fall by 21 percent and 11 percent respectively.

Deloitte says that the reduction on spending in Portugal is not as acute as in other countries because of "the importance of the

festive season in this country."

Despite Portugal being the country where pessimism regarding the economy has most grown", consumerism during the festive period seems to be based on "greater emotionality or lesser economic rationality", Sérgio Oliveira, associate partner of Deloitte explained to Lusa News

Agency.
The 2010 Xmas survey is Deloitte's 13th survey of year-end, holiday season purchasing intentions among European consumers. The survey covered 19 countries this year, including in particular countries directly affected by severe budget rationalization measures such as Greece. Ireland, the United Kingdom and Spain, as well as Portugal.

Over the last two weeks of September a broad representative sample of consumers (20,655 respondents) were questioned about their frame of mind and planned expenditure on gifts, extra food for festive meals and outof-home entertainment and lei-

Three out of four Portuguese said they would start their Christmas shopping earlier this year, to make the most of promotions and sales, as well as trying out more 'in-named brand' products.

Just one in ten Portuguese said they would buy Christmas presentes without worrying about prices.

In 2007 the Portuguese said

they allocated more than half of their Christmas budget towards presents, approximately €275, while this year the allocated amount increased to two thirds of the budget, to €375.





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Inconsistent weather patterns continue

Portugal suffered a wetter and warmer than average October this year, according to data released by the Portuguese Met Office (IM).

According to the Met Office, the average rainfall in mainland Portugal was higher than normal (taken from measurements between 1971 and 2000), with a difference of \$3.1 millimetres.

The wettest days were 3 and 4 October in northern Portugal and 8, 10, 29 and 31 October in the rest of the country. Rainfall on the island of Madeira was 94.6 millimetres above the average for the month.

The air temperature on the mainland was just below average throughout the month, although it was above average in the Azores and in Madeira.

According to the Met Office's drought monitor, on 31 October, the drought situation that covered most of the country the previous month lessened and ended in many parts of Portugal. A total of 40 percent of the country is under a period of light rain, 34 percent is under normal conditions and 26 percent is suffering mild drought.

The drought index, which is measured on a scale of nine levels between extreme rain and extreme drought, does not correspond to the hydrological or agricultural droughts. This is due to the time lapse between meteorological and hydrological values as it takes time for rainwater to replenish water sources after it has fallen.

This follows a report published last month which, after news that July had been the hottest since 1931, it was revealed that the summer of 2010, taking into account the months of June, July and August, was the hottest for 79 years.

This past summer, according to the Met Office, witnessed average temperatures of 23°C on mainland Portugal, which is 1.7°C above the average for the reference period, which is 1971 to 2000

Average maximum temperatures this past summer were 30°C, which is a staggering 2.5°C above what the Met Office considers normal, while thermometers sat at an average minimum of 15.9°C, which is 1°C above what weathermen would expect for that time of the year.

Thermometers exceeded 35°C

Thermometers exceeded 35°C in all districts of the country, with the Alentejo reporting 50 out of 90 days where temperatures were closer to 40°C than they were to 30°C.

were to 30°C.

In July, the Algarve reported record numbers of tropical nights which occurs when minimum temperatures fail to fall beneath 20°C.

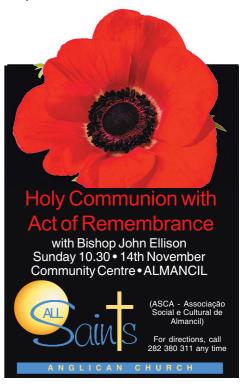
July was also particularly hot, with average temperatures of 31.75°C being 3°C above normal.

Last December, the Met Office revealed that Portugal has warmed by 1.2 degrees Celsius over the past few decades and is increasingly prone to extreme weather patterns such as heavy rains, heatwaves and extended cold snaps.

"Extreme phenomena could occur with greater frequency than they have in the past. We are constantly setting new records for the hottest summers", predicted the president of the National Met Office, Adérito Serrão.

Earlier this year, the Met Office said last winter had been the wettest since 1870 in Lisbon.

Not surprisingly, flood-ravaged Madeira also managed to beat all existing rainfall records, which were first compiled on the island in 1865.





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Car club slams Galp's low-cost prices



Portuguese Automobile Club ACP this week lifted the lid on fuel that Galp sells at its so-called 'low cost' Galp Base station in Setúbal, claiming international tests have shown it is the same as any other fuel sold in other petrol stations.

Prime Minister José Sócrates during a visit to the Galp refinery in Sines on 14 May. (Photo: Lusa/Tigao Canhoto)

British man and woman arrested over kidnapping and 'torture' of Scotsman



A British man and woman have been arrested by Algarve police in connection with the kidnapping and torturing of a Scottish citizen over an unpaid drugs debt.

PJ police made the arrests in the Algarve as part of an ongoing investigation into the crime.

Last month news emerged that a Scottish citizen, identified as James Ross, 26, reportedly a married father-of-two from Wicks, Caithness, had been kidnapped by a group of Brits. He is believed to have been abducted immediately after landing at Faro Airport on 5 October and was held for nearly two weeks in Boliqueime.

It has been suggested that Mr. Ross was lured to the Algarve with the offer of carrying out physical labour to pay off his drug debt.

PJ police initially arrested four British men in relation to the incident, aged between 20 and 50, all resident in the Algarve and all of whom had criminal records and were known to the police. The suspects were identified in reports as John Mclean, Terrence MacGurk, Calum McAleod and Ronnie Rose.

This week a source close to the investigation told Lusa News Agency that recently a 57-year-old man had been arrested and charged with crimes relating to

kidnapping and drug-dealing, and had been heard in Lisbon's Central Criminal Court (TCIC).

Pending trial the suspect is being held in police custody.

being held in police custody.

Under police instruction the woman has been prohibited from making contact with other suspects related to the case. She is also believed to have been ar-

The arrests were made by the PJ's National Unit Against Terrorism (UNCT). A "sophisticated" laboratory used to produce and dry cannabis in Montijo, near Pinhal Novo, was also dis-

mantled as a result of the investigation. The drugs were believed to be intended for international distribution.

The case dates back to last month, when Scottish citizen James Ross was found alive after being kidnapped by a gang of British citizens in the Algarve. Having been alerted to his disappearance Portuguese police were about to launch a murder investigation following concerns for his welfare.

Mr. Ross had been held by the gang for 13 days and tortured, allegedly over an unpaid drug debt said to have been in the region of £10,000. After managing to escape he was found to have had an ear, fingers and toes amputated, as well as having suffered extensive physical abuse.

Galp originally claimed that the fuel could be sold at a lower price due to the absence of additives, though this was allegedly contradicted by the tests.

"Laboratory tests prove that the ACP is right: fuels sold at the Setúbal Galp Base station have additives and therefore quashes the justification given by Galp for the lower prices", a statement released from the ACP this week read.

The car club further revealed that on Monday it submitted a response to the lawsuit brought against the ACP by Galp, which was announced in Parliament in October, and added that the as-

sociation is now defending itself "from this unprecedented attack on its role in society".

After Galp announced it would be opening a low-cost petrol station in Setúbal the ACP warned the public of indications of price-fixing and reported the situation to the European Commission in September.

Addressing the affair, three weeks ago Manuel Sebastião, head of the Portuguese Competition Authority (AdC), said the introduction of no-brand products as well as more expensive options "proves that the market is working and so is the competition"

E.Leclerc counts the cost of the crisis in the Algarve

Carrie-Marie Bratley

The E.Leclerc supermarket in Parchal, Lagoa, will be closing its doors for good on 19 November, after profits plummeted by nearly half in the three years that the store has been open.

In recent weeks discounts of up to 80 percent have been placed on hundreds of products, prompting suspicions that the reductions are in fact part of a massive clearance sale ahead of imminent closure.

A statement sent to The Portugal News from the group's administration board confirmed these rumours: "The E.Leclerc Lagoa store will close on 19 November due to a 42 percent reduction in revenue, since its opening in 2007 until now."

Struggling tourism as well unemployment are two causes blamed for the store's poor performance.

"The tourism sector has been significantly affected by the crisis and unemployment in the Algarve is higher than the national average, two factors affect citizens' buying power", the statement read.

E.Leclerc said it was, however,

taking the necessary steps to ensure the employment of its work-

"With the aim of supporting its employees, E.Leclere's administration has been in contact with the Regional Board of Employment and Professional Training Institute, in advance, and its employees are already enrolled in recruitment procedures, being able to find new jobs in a short space of time."

"Clients are encouraged to go to the E.Leclerc store in Portimão, which is just five minutes' away and has been expanded. In Portimão clients will find a bazaar area, a space [dedicated to] electrical goods, and a fuel station with the lowest prices in the region."

It is thought more than 30 employees will be affected by the closure, along with around half a dozen other independent businesses located within the store, which will also reportedly close.

These include a hair dressing salon belonging to the Victor Picardo group, a pet shop and a paper shop.





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news

Casa Pia trial could reopen due to alleged 'null' verdict

One of Portugal's most publicised trials, the Casa Pia paedophile case, could be reopened according to defence lawver Ricardo Sá Fernandes, after the Public Prosecutor's Office agreed that part of the verdict was in fact null and void.

Speaking to Lusa News Agency, Mr. Fernandes, lawyer for the former television presenter Carlos Cruz said that the court through "error" or other reasons, did not tell his client that the crime of abuse of which he was accused in Elvas was not committed on a Saturday afternoon after all as the prosecutors said, but on a weekday.

"This alteration was never communicated to Carlos Cruz and it should have been. As it was not, it makes the verdict null and

void, meaning that the trial should be reopened," said the lawyer, adding that there is "a high probability" that that part of the trial will be reopened for new evidence to be produced and a new verdict.

According to Mr. Fernandes, a change in the facts that occurred in Elvas also has implications for lawyer Hugo Marçal and ex-Casa Pia driver Carlos Silvino, both of whom were tried for inciting prostitution

The Casa Pia case, which dealt with the sexual abuse of minors in one of Portugal's most re nowned children's homes, lasted six years, with a verdict that condemned six out of the seven suspects to prison sentences and the paying of compensation to their victims. Carlos Cruz was sentenced to seven years in prison.



Germany refuses to extraditeAlgarve murder suspect



Germany has rejected a request from Portugal to extradite presumed double murderer Gunnar Dorries, who is a German national, and who is believed to have murdered an Angolan woman and their daughter in the Algarve in July this year.

Munich Public Prosecutor Joachim Ettenhofer told Lusa News Agency "we have decided that the trial should be carried out in Germany as there are means of gathering evidence here as well as in Portugal and the same goes for the witnesses and the case's background".

The decision regarding the request from the Portuguese justice system, made around four months ago, was pronounced last week by the Munich Public Prosecutor's office. A start date for the trial has not yet been scheduled as investigations are still ongoing.

The suspect initially appealed against the extradition request via his German lawyer Sascha Petzold, because of the different languages but also so as his family could continue to visit him in

In Germany the suspect could

face a maximum sentence of life. which in reality could be as little as 15 years, but could be held indefinitely if he is still considered a danger to society. In Portugal the maximum sentence the suspect would face is 25 years in jail.

Dorries, a 43-year-old engineer is believed to have killed Angolan Georgina Zito, with whom he was having an affair despite living with another woman, while they were on holiday in Lagos. He is also believed to have killed his and Zito's 21month-old daughter Alexandra.

As far as German and Portuguese police are aware the suspect travelled to Portugal on 6 July 2010 accompanied by Georgina Zito, an Angolan national residing in Stuttgart, and their daughter Alexandra. They were staying in a hotel in Lagos.

On 10 July he is believed to $have\,dragged\,Georgina\,in to\,the\,sea$ on Canavial beach, where he drowned her, trying to make it look like an accident. He is believed to have then fled the scene. carrying Alexandra, who has been missing ever since.

He arrived back at the hotel hours later without his daughter, and on 13 July he travelled to Lisbon in a rented vehicle, from where he caught a flight back to Munich.

On 15 July a German police officer from a special command unit detained Dorries in his apartment after a European warrant for his arrest was issued by Portuguese authorities.

Since then he has been held in police custody and has been interrogated several times about the whereabouts of his daughter, though he refuses to disclose any further information.

Nevertheless he did say that the child was still alive the last time he saw her and claims that he handed her over to a couple of tourists in the Algarve. Both German and Portuguese police have carried out searches in the areas that he indicated in his statements though found no leads. Police now assume she is

PJ arrest suspected fuel station robber

(P.I) have arrested a 39 year-old man on suspicion of carrying out armed robberies on two petrol stations along the A22

motorway in August 2009. According to a statement re-

leased by the PJ on Wednesday, the suspect "threatened staff at the petrol stations with a firearm in order to obtain cash from the tills."

The firearm used in the crimes was found during a pohouse. Following a court appearance, the suspect has been released pending trial, al-though he must present himself three times a week at a police station.



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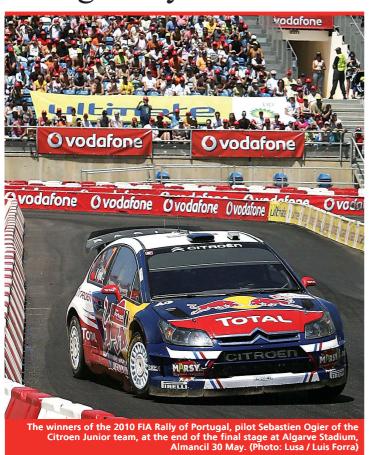
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289 350 150

Portugal rally rakes in €85 million



The 2010 Portugal rally brought in more than \in 85 million in revenue to the country's tourism industry, an amount only surpassed by the Euro 2004 football event, according to a study revealed by the national automobile club (ACP)



According to the study carried out by the international investigation for territory and tourism and the University of the Algarve, "more than €50 million was made in direct expenditure, such as accommodation and meals" in the lower Alentejo and Algarve regions during the event held between 27 and 30 May.

Indirectly, around €35 million was made from media coverage of the event in the press and on international television chan-

"In total, €85,199 million is a record result for sport events carried out in Portugal," said a statement from ACP, which organised the event. It added: 'ACP is proud of the image and tourism promotion of the country thanks to this event.

Portuguese 'OK' with life in general

A new report by the United Nations (UN) has revealed that while the majority of Portuguese are satisfied with their jobs and personal health, more than half of the population are not happy with their daily routines. Overall, it was concluded that the Portuguese are 'more or less OK with life in general.'

EU patients to be treated in any hospital in the union

The possibility for an EU citizen to be treated in any EU country should be a reality next year, according to an announcement made by the European health commissioner John Dalli on 8 November.

During a press lunch at the Jean Monet centre in Lisbon. John Dalli said that despite the majority of people continuing to use the health service of their resident country, sometimes the best medical care can be given abroad.

The Commission is trying to "facilitate the movement of patients" and clarify the search for healthcare centres. He said that although he would like to say that it would be possible "tomorrow", he believes that "it will be possible from next year.

Mr Dalli added that: "people don't like to move from one country to another, especially when they are ill," so another measure being worked on by the Commission to improve health services is 'e-health'.

Without great telemedicine will allow better healthcare without people needing to travel, although the greatest obstacle to the e-health project is the incompatibility of the EU's different health services.

Meanwhile, the EU Commission is working on a system to evaluate and compare discoveries in the healthcare industry to decide whether they are better than existing methods and provide any real benefits.

'The big question is understanding who will be responsible for evaluating that, and who will make the scientific decision about whether it is better or not and whether it is economically viable,"he said.

This year the UN evaluated 169 countries based on the wellbeing of populations.

Nine out often Portuguese say they are satisfied with their jobs, but more than half of the population do not like their routines, the report claims

Portugal ranked 40th, having dropped six places in comparison last year but still being amongst the countries where human development is "very high". country's population showed it was "more or less OK with life in general", having achieved a result of 5.7 on a scale of one to ten in that category.

Eighty percent of Portuguese individuals involved in the report said they were satisfied with their personal health, and 90 percent said they were happy with their jobs, though 18.5 percent of workers admitted to being in a 'vulnerable' position, being "involved in a non-remunerated family business or self-employed"

Based on figures from 2008, this latest UN report showed that 55.7 percent of the national population aged between 15 and 61 were employed. Employment was in fact scarcer for those with an education. That year, eight percent of individuals with a primary or lower schooling were unemployed, in comparison to the 15.6 percent of individuals with a secondary or superior education, who were jobless.

Regarding child labour, Portugal and Bahrain are the only two countries belonging to the 'very high human development' group where cases of underage employment were detected.

In Portugal, according to the UN report, three percent of children aged between five and 14 have a form of job, while in Bahrain, which ranks 39th on the list, that percentage rises to five per-

Within the category dedicated to civic and community well-being, in Portugal seven in every one hundred people claim to have been mugged, more than double the number of citizens who are robbed in Norway, the country that tops the UN's list.

Six in ten Portuguese say they feel safe in this country.

Regarding indicators of happiness, 92 percent of the Portuguese respondents say they have goals in life and 93 percent feel they are treated with respect

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Chestnuts worth their weight in gold

Carrie-Marie Bratley



November in Portugal is traditionally a month that heavily features the humble chestnut. Across the country, fairs and celebrations are held for *Dia de São Martinho* (Saint Martin's Day), which is officially on 11 November, though events can last for days. Roasted chestnuts and wine are inextricably linked to São Martinho. In certain regions of Portugal, chestnuts are the main source of income for the majority of the population and the overall profit generated by chestnut sales and exports is today estimated at tens of millions of euros.

In Terras de Montenegro, Valpaços (Northern Portugal), chestnut production is a primary source of employment that provides an income to nearly 90 percent of families in that region. Annually it is worth an estimated €20 million in sales, being exported to countries including Brazil, Canada and the USA.

Flávio Sousa, head of the Regional Terras de Montenegro Farmers' Association (ARATM), told Lusa News Agency that many producers from that region "survive only on chestnuts".

"When a year is poor production-wise it is a miserable year for them", he stressed.

Around 90 percent of the families from that region depend solely on income from chestnut production. As well as being sold on the internal market Portuguese chestnuts are exported to countries such as France, Italy, Spain, Brazil, Canada and the USA.

Francisco Tavares, Mayor of Valpaços Town Hall estimates that chestnut production is a business worth in the region of "£20 million indirects ales". Chestnuts, according to Valpaços Mayor, are the "gold of the mountain" which the local population "knows how to make the most of". They represent 50 percent of all agricultural production in that region, where other major products include almonds, olive oil and wine.

This harvest, though, producers have complained about a drop in production, a consequence believed to have been caused by the recent weather conditions with summers being very hot and dry which has stumped the fruit's growth.

Nonetheless, according to Flávio Sousa, "the quality is better", which has caused a rise in the

price and currently sell at an average of two euros per kilo.

This year it is thought that production will total at around 7,500 kilos.

According to the Northern Regional Board for Agriculture and Fisheries (DRAPN), 30 percent of the 'Transmontana' region's chestnuts are produced in Padrela.

Meanwhile, with advances in technology it seems the future of traditional chestnut-picking could be in jeopardy. Some producers from Terras de Montenegro are swapping manpower for machinery with the technology to pick in one hour the equivalent of what 20 hand-pickers can do in a day.

Flávio Sousa explained, "Man power is expensive compared to the income that we get and on top of that, there aren't even people to do the groundwork".

A local producer added: "There is a big lack of man power around here. Sometimes even foreigners come to pick chestnuts".

Last weekend Valpaços was once again host to the fourth consecutive Castmonte 2010 fair, which took place in Carrazedo Montenegro.

Featuring around 60 exhibitors all relating to the chestnut, this year's star of the show was a 600-kilo chestnut cake which was distributed amongst Sunday's visitors.

Some €25,000 was invested in the fair, which saw an estimated 20,000 people visit it.

Photo above right: Luísa Marques (right), the president of the Association of Chestnut and Ice cream Vendors in Lisbon, roasting chestnuts in the capital in December 2008. (Photo: Lusa/Pedro Pina)





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China agrees deals worth one billion



resident Hu Jintao with President Anibal Cavaco Silva, first lady, Maria Cavaco Silva and Chinese Liu Yongqing before the dinner at Ajuda Palace, Lisbon, 6 November. President Hu Jintao was two day state visit to Portugal accompanied by his wife Liu Yongqing. (Photo: Lusa / António

High alert for terrorist threats during NATO summit but "no reason for alarm"



Portugal's terrorist threat alert level will be high during the 19-20 November NATO summit in Lisbon but there is "no reason for alarm", Portuguese Interior Minister Rui Pereira said.

"There is no reason for alarm although we must be vigilant and pay attention to every sign", Minister Pereira said on Wednes $day.\,Reminding\,a\,series\,of\,recent$ incidents with letter-bombs in several European countries, Pereira noted that "caution is necessary regarding commercial aviation, which has been terror-

ist groups' preferred medium". The Portuguese government will also impose border controls between 16-20 November, thus temporarily suspending Schengen agreement rules.

A government dispatch explains that due to the NATO summit's "dimension, media visibility and complexity", including the presence of "high level officials from 28 nations", the "exceptional measure" of suspending the unchecked movement of people was "necessary".

Meanwhile, Portugal's postal service operator CTT has improved its security mechanisms for mail and package verification ahead of the summit, sources were reported as telling the Lusa News Agency.

The sources wouldn't specify what the additional security measures were, simply stating that "some specific security measures were enhanced".

Asked whether the additional security was linked to recent incidents with bomb packages in Greece, the sources declined to comment, merely saving that "CTT always has preventive security measures in place regardless of the situation"

Security specialist João Ruxa Pereira told Lusa that added security "makes total sense" considering that Portugal "is hosting a NATO summit". TPN/Lusa

MP complains defence issues have been "ghettoed"

National defence issues have been "ghettoed" in a Portuguese political debate, Social Democrat MP José Pacheco Pereira said.

In a symposium in parliament about the upcoming 19-20 November NATO summit, Pacheco Pereira blamed his own party and the ruling Socialists for "the scarce debate" over national defence.

The military is perceived "as a money drain, not a central function of the state", the MP

said, adding that the result of this "indifference" is the "loss of legitimacy for the military ethos"

"It's absurd that [in a country] with so much flag-waving patriotism, defence issues are discussed in terms of how much a submarine costs". Pacheco

China's President Hu Jintao signed trade and business deals worth US\$1 billion during his trip to Lisbon, Chinese media reported this week as he returned home after his visit to Portugal.

"Hu Jintao and Portuguese Prime Minister José Sócrates presided over the signing of deals and contracts in infrastructure. renewable energy and tourism up to US\$1 billion", the 'China Daily' wrote.

Hu returned to Beijing after a four-day trip to Europe that took him to Paris and Lisbon. After meeting with Portuguese President Cavaco Silva on Saturday. Hu said Beijing and Lisbon had found "ample consensus on bilateral relations and other issues of common interest".

Portuguese officials told Lusa News Agency the two sides inked three institutional documents and a raft of business agreements at the conclusion of the visit.

They said the institutional accords included a joint declaration for bolstered economic cooperation within the framework of the bilateral "strategic partnership" established five years ago.

"We are ready to back through concrete measures, Portugal's efforts to face the impacts caused by the international financial crisis and broaden our ecoHu said after the signing of the agreements.

"We will do everything for commercial exchanges between China and Portugal to double by

2015", he added. Sócrates thanked Hu for his 'personal engagement" in helping boost bilateral trade and giv-ing "an impulse" to greater Chinese investment in Portugal in order to create a "more balanced" dynamic.

According to Chinese figures, two-way trade increased nearly 41% during the first nine months of the year, with China taking the lion's share of US\$1.85 billion to Portugal's US\$547 million.

Sócrates said bolstered economic cooperation would complement the existing "excellent political relations". He underlined that the accords brought a "diversification of economic co-operation", embracing new areas like tourism, information technology and telecommunications.

However, there was no public mention of Beijing's earlier indication it was considering buying $Portuguese \, sovereign \, debt \, bonds.$

Candidate Alegre criticises "silent" President

date Manuel Alegre attacked incumbent Cavaco Silva on Friday for remaining silent in the face of "an extremely serious threat to

national sovereignty".

Manuel Alegre, a former Socialist MP, was referring to the rise in interest rates for Portuguese bonds, which he described as the "biggest threat since [the April 25, 1974 revolution] to our ability to make autonomous decisions"

"This week the prime minister [José Sócrates] said we wouldn't kneel before anyone, but nobody has heard a word from the president", Alegre told Lusa News Agency.

Mr. Alegre added that, as a president with economic training, Cavaco Silva should "say

something", considering "the hardships that are being imposed upon the Portuguese people".

Portugal will hold a presidential election on 23 January.

In a related story, Manuel Alegre has called on Portuguese citizens living abroad to "decisively" take part in the presidential election and vote for a candidate "with a progressive worldview".

In a letter addressed to emigrant communities, Alegre praised recent changes to election laws that "eliminated all discrimination and restriction" on emigrant voters in presidential elections.

'That was a major step in citizens' rights that improves our democracy and the presidential elections", Alegre wrote.

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business

EU dismisses 'speculation' on bailout need

The European Commission dismissed as mere "speculation" Friday the eventuality of Portugal having to request EU bailout aid.

"There have been no contacts in this sense", Brussels' spokesman for economic affairs Amadeu Altafaj Tardio told Lusa News Agency.

News Agency.
Mr. Tardio said the Portuguese parliament's approval last week of a 2011 austerity budget

was "an important development, the best possible to strengthen the credibility of the Portuguese economy" before the markets.

He declined to comment on the fact interest on Portuguese sovereign debt had risen to nearly 7% since parliament passed the budget, saying Brussels did not comment on short-term market developments.

In a similar vein, former IMF Director-General Jacques de Larosière said in Lisbon he was favourably "impressed" with the budget's belt-tightening measures

He said the "very significant" steps would allow the government to reduce the deficit next year to 4.6%, as planned.

"Portugal is doing its work very well; it's doing the right things", Larosière said, adding that the IMF "wouldn't do much more". TPN/Lusa

EU Commission President Manuel José Barroso and former President of the

EU Commission President Manuel José Barroso and former President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development French Jacques de Larosière. (Photo: Waem Belgium Out Belga / Lusa)

Clean bill of health for EU accounts; auditors find fewer errors in payments

For the third year running the EU's annual accounts have received a clean bill of health from its external auditors, the European Commission said in a statement earlier this week.

As for payments, the overall evaluation improves visibly, with a significant drop in errors found in aid to the EU's regions.
Algirdas Šemeta, Commis-

Algırdas Semeta, Commissioner for Taxation, Customs, Anti-Fraud and Audit, said: "In the current economic climate, citizens need particular reassurance that EU funds are being efficiently managed and effectively spent. This is a top priority for the Commission. We can be pleased with the improvements in EU financial management, which are recognised today by the Court of Auditors. But there is always more that can be done, and the Commission will continue its intense efforts to ensure that EU funds are properly accounted for and well spent."

The accounts were found to be 'true and fair', meaning a clean bill of health

The Commission also managed for the first time to bring downthe overall error rate for EU spending below 5%. This means at least 95% of total payments made in 2009 were correct.

For cohesion expenditure (i.e. aid to EU regions and to boost employment), the Commission wel-

comes the Court's acknowledgement of the visible progress in this area, and will step up efforts to consolidate the improvements made.

Inagriculture, the situation has been stable over recent years, with the level of error oscillating around the 'clean bill of health' threshold of 2%. A very good result given the complexity and scope of farm subsidies, paid directly to millions of farmers across Europe.

The value of funds clawed back from projects where errors were found, or from national authorities responsible, continued to grow – a sign of Commission determination to protect the EU budget in times of financial austerity. Recoveries and financial corrections confirmed or decided in 2009 rose to €3.3 billion, compared to €2.9 billion in 2008. The Commission will continue to encourage member states to improve their reporting on national recoveries made.

On the preventive side, the Commission says it is stepping up efforts to simplify, where possible, its financial rules, a measure advocated by the auditors. A new proposal setting up simpler procedures for EU grants and contracts has been tabled this year and is now with the European Parliament.

The transparency of pay-

ments is another way to improve the quality of EU spending. The Commission's own online database accessible at http://ec.europa.eu/beneficiaries/fts/index_en.htm now provides details of more than 114 thousand grants and contracts awarded directly by the European Commission, as well as links to national sites providing details of beneficiaries of farm subsidies and regional aid grants.

Unemployment rate holds steady at 10.6%, OECD's fifth highest

Portugal's unemployment rate held steady at 10.6% in September according to Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) figures released.

Portugal continues to have the fifth highest unemployment rate among OECD's 33 member-countries.

The OECD average also remained unchanged at 8.5%. The highest unemployment rates among OECD countries are Spain's (20.8%), the Czech Republic (14.7%) and Ireland's (14.1%). TPN/Lusa

EC adopts 2010 enlargement package

The European Commission has this week adopted its Enlargement Package. This presents the Commission's annual assessment of the European Union's enlargement agenda. It outlines the current state of preparations, the challenges ahead, and the way forward for the Western Balkans, Turkey and Iceland.

In the report, the Commission is proposing Candidate Status for Montenegro, and recommends that accession negotiations with Montenegro and Albania should be opened once these countries have met a number of key priorities set out in the opinions.

The Commission confirms that Croatia is entering the final phase of its accession preparations

Presenting the annual enlargement package, Commissioner Füle said: "The enlargement policy enables the EU to meet the challenges of a shifting, multipolar world, in which we need to continue projecting our valuebased system beyond our borders. A Union that shall once again build cooperation between formerrivals, while upholding the highest standards of human rights, will have the magnetic soft power needed to shape the world

around it, rather than be shaped by it."

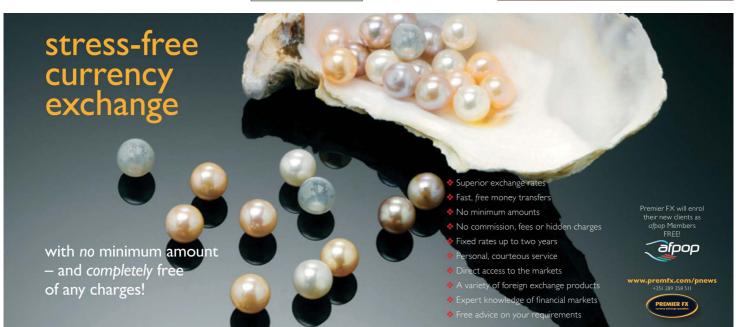
As the Lisbon Treaty removes institutional bottlenecks and creates the opportunity for the joint implementation of all foreign affairs tools (CFSP and community tools), the enlargement agenda can move forward. Negotiations with Croatia have entered their final phase, while negotiations with Turkey advance, albeit at a slow pace.

Accession negotiations with Iceland have been launched and Serbia's EU membership application is being processed. The Commission renewed its 2009 recommendation that accession negotiations with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should be opened, and

reconfirmed the European perspective for Bosnia Herzegovina and for Kosovo.

"The EU's enlargement policy provides an excellent example of how we can turn serious challenges on our doorstep into opportunities for a more secure and prosperous Europe," added Commissioner Füle. "To be successful, we need to keep this process credible. For the EU, credibility means that the accession perspective is offered on the basis of strict and rigorous conditionality. For the candidates and potential candidates, this involves committing to reforms that are designed to bring them closer to EU standards and laws, as well as a credible EU perspective."





PM in two-day trip to Macao this weekend

Portuguese Prime Minister José Sócrates will travel to Macao this weekend (13 and 14 November) for business talks and is expected to meet his Chinese counterpart, Wen Jiabao, at a time when China is considering buying Portuguese sovereign bonds, the prime minister's office announced.

Prime Minister Sócrates will attend the 'Macao Forum', a business and trade event joining Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) and Chinese officials.

The trip is "part of a recent set of talks with a view to strengthening

political and economic ties" between Portugal and China, the prime minister's office wrote in a statement.

Mr. Sócrates sojourn in Macao follows a visit to Portugal by Chinese President Hu Jintao.

TPN/Lusa



Insurance Cover beyond your Expectations



This time it's different

Human endeavour, frailty and failure can be seen quite clearly during economic cycles from booms, to busts and to their inevitable recessions. Heaven knows that we really have seen them all rightacross the financial globe during the last few years. The traditional phases that populate an economic cycle have happened before, but this time it really is different so don't be fooled by the daily rhetoric in the public domain.

In this article, I will aim to provide you with some opinion that I almost always scrutinise on a daily basis with the intention to provide you with some logical explanation. It is up to you whether you agree or not.

The phase immediately after recession is a recovery. Normally a recovery phase as experienced from previous recessions has its foundations inincreasedbank lending. Almost everyone working in the field of mortgages will know this is not happening anywhere near as fast as it should be. As an example in the UK after the 1991 recession, from 1992 to 1995 this type of lending grew at 5% a year whereas today following the recent/current recession for the first time it is contracting by 1.6% year-on-year.

The failure of the money supply to expand at this juncture of a recovery is much more important than governments' economic and fiscal policies. This is why politicians are becoming increasingly as reckless as the individuals who almost brought the financial world to its knees during the recent crisis.

Here we are two to three years down the line and in Europe, Jean-ClaudeTrichet is speaking of increased short term rates spiralling up and out of control. Back in the UK, Mervyn King the Governor of the Bank of England has forecasted that 10 years of austerity are likely.

What is also quite unprecedented during this recession are the Quantative Easing (QE) programs made by the Bank of Eng-

Number

land and the Federal Reserve have also failed to get money pumping through the small and medium size businesses. Again, the majority flows through the investment banking sectors into high yielding currencies. So you can thank QE for having created major currency instability in the world.

Many non-Euro denominated residents here in Portugal ("ster-ling-based" investors/recipients of income, i.e. Brits) have come to experience that what drives the market's expectations of currency movements is a law unto itself. Nearly every concerned Brit living in Euroland has undoubtedly thought that Sterling Euro rate to be 1.25 and possibly on 1.30. It is instead going the other way.

It would be far easier to accept that these volatilities are caused by daily exchange rates, short-term interest rates and annual inflation rates, but alas life is not that simple. However, it is never wise to discountevery possible factor that makes a considered influence on exchange rates which currently are:

 expectations about the midterm elections in the United States

- whether Greece and Ireland will be able to pay their debts when called upon (and other new entrants into the fray)

trants into the fray)
- German local elections may have the potential to oust the current Chancellor and punish Merkel for her support or apparent support for Greece (although she has demonstrated a new bed fellow in Sarkozy)

- whether France accepts an increased retirement age to 62

With the Federal Reserve acknowledging that maybe another round of money printing is required(estimatedat\$500billion for QE2), the above may have very little influence and volatilities may ensue in the currency markets even further, especially if bank lending doesn't getre-directed to local businesses or directly into governments' tax coffers.

Even if you do not deal in currencies, then your international portfolio of investments may very well be affected, especially emerging markets. An ideal way of protecting the downside is to hedge your portfolio. A tried and tested method is to balance and diversify your investments, otherwise known as "natural hedging". The other alternative is to allocate a small amount of your investments into hedging techniques such as publicly traded future and options that all investors can access (both humble, modest and expert) through personal investment managers or fund managers themselves. Either way, you should seek professional and independent opinion to back up what you already know.

This article is intended to provide a general review of certain topics and its purpose is to inform but NOT to recommend or support any specific investments or course of action

Raoul Ruiz Martinez is a resident and independent consultant for Finesco Financial Services Ltd., Glasgow and advises private clients on financial investments in both the UK and throughout Europe under MiFID regulation. He can be contacted at the offices of euroFINESCOs.a. either by telephone on 289 561 333 or one mail Raoul. Ruiz@Finesco.com.

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Business coaching franchise opens in Portimão

Abranch of the business coaching franchise Action COACH has opened an office in Portimão, offering a range of services for companies across the region.

With more than 15 years of international business coaching experience, ActionCOACH is now able to help companies in the Algarve, helping them to focus on development and gain better results

Leading the new branch of this franchise is Helder Gonçalves.

In a statement, he says: "As

In a statement, he says: "As your coach, I will be working with you in five key areas. The emphasis on each area depends on your needs, the type of business you have, and your goals. The key areas are: Sales; Marketing and Advertising; Team Building and Recruitment; Systems and Business Development; and, Customer Service."

According to Mr. Gonçalves, ActionCOACH's first step to get a business going is to take a 'Business Health Check.'

For further information, as well as a free, no obligation consultation, please visit the website, available in English at www.actioncoach.com/beldergoncalyes/.



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business 13

'Doing business' gets easier in Portugal

Doing business in Portugal is becoming increasingly easier according to an annual global report, which compares the business practices and procedures of around 183 countries across the world.

The Doing Business 2011 report, which was published online earlier this month shows that Portugal has improved overall by 17 positions, having moved up from being ranked at 48 to a position of 31 out of 183 countries.

Portugal came top out of all the countries included in the report in the real estate industry, for the speed of registering a property. Along with countries such as Georgia, Sweden, Norway and the United Arab Emirates, Portugal has the fewest number of procedures required for registering a property. It is also the fastest country in the world in which to register a property, requiring only one day.

This has been achieved by the establishment of a 'one-stop-

shop' for property registration.
A spokesman from Vernon Real Estate, which has been established for more than 25 years in the Algarve, told The Portugal News: "The actual buying process in Portugal has improved in recent decades, with the process having become very straight-forward, fast and transparent for buyers. If the funds are available and the property has no legal issues, then a sale can be completed from start to finish in as little as a

"For the real estates themselves however, the process is becoming more complex, with a lot of bureaucracy involved," added the spokesman.

In comparison, Brazil was found to have the most procedures to register a property, with 14, while registering a property takes the longest in the Pacific island nation of Kiribati, at 513

days.
Other improvements for doing business in Portugal noted by the report included the fact that the country had revised its tax laws as well as reduced labour taxes and mandatory contributions between 2009/10.

Overall, Portugal beat off competition from other southern EU countries such as neighbouring Spain, which has been ranked 49th position, Italy, which is in 80th place and Greece, which is ranked 109th out of 183.

Portugal has also improved its ranking from last year's report within the EU countries, having risen from 18th to 13th position. The report has ranked Portugal higher in the EU than countries such as Austria, Luxembourg,



Poland and the Czech Republic, among others

"This position is due to the positive impact of the Simplex Programme and its 809 measures to simplify people's and businesses lives, which has been adopted over the last four years," said a spokesman from the Portuguese government following the report's release.

According to results from an annual reader survey carried out by **The Portugal News**, 7.69 percent of expatriate readers who have businesses believe that setting up a company in Portugal is much better and easier than it has been in the past. This has improved from the 2008 survey re-

sults, where only 3.30 percent of business owners thought that opening a business was better

In the 2009/10 survey, a total of 30.77 percent of business owners believe that setting up a company in Portugal is improving but still not easy, while the majority (58.24 percent) believe that the process is difficult and time consuming.

Meanwhile, the expatriate community has seen a steady improvement in the country's bureaucracy, with 18.90 percent having noticed improvements in the most recent survey, compared to 16.32 percent in 2008.

Chris Barton, CEO of the British Portuguese Chamber of Commerce told The Portugal News: Things have improved significantly in recent years for companies looking to set up in Portugal, especially regarding the registration of new companies, which is much quicker now. Por-

tugal is also pretty good in auto-

mating things electronically; it is

ahead of the game. The Doing Business 2011 report is an annual project from the World Bank, which provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement across 183 economies and se-

lected cities at the sub national

and regional level. Launched in 2002, the project looks at domestic small and medium-size companies and measures the regulations applying to them through their life cycle. The rankings from the Doing Business 2011 report cover the period June 2009 through May 2010.

Overall, Singapore has been ranked in first position in the Doing Business 2011 report, with Chad in Africa coming in final

For more information or to read the full Doing Business reportplease visit the website available in English at www.doing business.org.

EFRBS: A Non-aggressive Retirement Package

The UK government announced in the 2010 budget that it will be introducing anti-avoidance legislation to combat the use of employee trusts and other vehicles in remuneration arrangements.

It released a statement which says, "The Government will be taking action to prevent efforts to avoid tax and National Insurance Contributions (NICs) on earnings provided through the use of trusts and other vehicles.

"Employers and employees are entering into arrangements using trusts and other vehicles that seek to avoid, defer or reduce liabilities $to income \, tax \, and \, NICs \, on \, earnings \,$ or that seek to avoid restrictions on pensions tax relief.'

"Arrangements in some cases seek to rely on the use of complex intermediary structures, some of which may be offshore.'

"The Government is considering options for tackling these arrangements, including those which seek to avoid the restrictions on tax relief for pension schemes, and intends to introduce legislation in due course to take effect from 6 April 2011."No further details are given, but Ian Jones, founder of EFRBS specialist Castellan, believes the

Government is likely to include the use of sub-trusts, where close companies give monies to trusts which are then allocated so they are restricted for the benefit of individuals and families. Alternatively, benefits are provided tax-free after the end of employment.

Since it appears the measures will be preventing or deterring arrangements to disguise payments of remuneration, it is assumed that the employee would receive some sort of benefit, for example a loan. To disguise payments would infer that it is a non-commercial arrangement.

For many months, Castellan has been advocating strongly that any loan made to a member must be made by the trustees on a commercial basis

STM Life Health and Pensions Director, David Erhardt, commented, "Our view is that with our conservative approach and robust structure we will survive any attack." We believe that EFRBS will be maintained as a long-term planning solution that can efficiently accumulate funds outside of an individual's estate for inheritance tax, due to the way that the trust deed has been structured and the benefits it provides.

In particular we have always advocated that loans may be restricted, especially where the loans are not of a commercial nature. It may be that in future companies decide to take the most prudent route and remove the loans to members altogether.

Steve Whittam 00441244812357 swittam@gibro.com

Transferring your UK pension to QROPS? Make sure you get the right advice







ewnewnew



About Algarve Mobility

Quality mobility equipment for hire and sale in the Algarve - now open - a mobility shop based between Lagos and Chinicato on the EN125 near Solmate and Furniture World

Algarve Mobility was formed in 2007 by Prosper and his wife Christina. Christina is a trained Disability Equality and Diversity Consultant (since 1995), and is a qualified professional Independent Living Adviser, qualified on all aspects of disability. Christina has been a very proud wheelchair user all her life and is very aware of the lack of professional and quality mobility hire and sales services here in the Al-

Since 2007 Algarve Mobility has grown rapidly due to their expertise and awareness of what clients want and need to enhance their mobility requirements, hence the reason why quantity is completely over-ridden by their focus on product quality.

They are rated the leading provider of Mobility Equipment Hire and Sales in the Algarve by all their clients, especially in comparison to their previous experiences here in the Algarve. Christina's passion for equality for her peers and people with restricted mobility goes deeper than just a business; to her and her husband, it's about the need for a well informed disability service for everyone to tap into.

Algarve Mobility has the latest, high quality, stylish and robust mobility equipment in the Algarve, such as electric scooters, electric wheelchairs plus the electric beach wheelchair (the only one of its kind in Portugal and Spain). With this in mind. Algarve Mobility intend their equipment speaks for itself making a quality statement on its

They are unique in their service because they offer additional advice and support around the key areas of independence such as travel, access audits, adaptation, equipment servicing, repairs, mobility scooter spares, batteries for all mobility products, measuring and fitting of stair lifts, care beds and hoists.

They can also offer you suport in seeking to apply for your UK Benefits while living here in Portugal. Algarve Mobility is all about promoting independence and equality of life.

Pay them a visit or contact them by phone. They are always willing to assist and not just try

to sell you something.

Tel: 915 504 1005 or
282 763 299, Web-site www.algarvemobility.com. Prosper & Christina, Algarve Mobility, Lote N – Lote 14, Urb. Industrial Da Marrateca, Lagos 8600-306

current economic climate, is vital to business survival.

No matter what size business you have, creating a professional visual image is key to your success. After all, your image — as seen on your business cards, marketing materials and website etc - is the first, and sometimes only, chance you have to introduce your company to potential customers. If your customers like

Image matters

Freelance graphic designer, Alison Trafford, is here to help small businesses and the self-

employed obtain their full poten-

tial client numbers which, in this

closer to getting their business. Alison has been a graphic designer for over 15 years and has during that time produced work for a variety of clients, both large companies through to the selfemployed, and for a whole range

what they see, you are one step

of businesses. She moved to the Algarve with her husband Michael (who offers mini-digger and groundwork services) and their two children, seven years ago. Since moving here Alison has undertaken more website work, (both new sites and re-vamp of existing sites), including sites for consultant surgeons (Alison has a lot of experience in medical graphics) through to villa owners promoting their holiday rental properties.
"I pride myself in working

closely with my clients, providing tailor-made, comprehensive website and graphic design solutions at affordable prices.

Visit Alison's own website www.alisontrafford.com to see some of the work she has produced. Alison can be contacted by email: a.trafford@sapo.pt to discuss your requirements



Alison Trafford with her husband Michael

Business Club Algarve - first meeting huge success

Patrick Molenaar of Pure Allure Interiors launched the new Business Club Algarve networking meetings with a fantastic drinks and snacks get-together at Cubo, Quinta do Lago. The response was overwhelming; Patrick was asked many times when the next event would take place. Business men and woman from all over the Algarve mingled freely with a glass of wine from one of the sponsors at the event. As we all know, it is easier to chat to people in a relaxed atmosphere and this is exactly what Patrick had in mind when he established this club. Considering many big deals have been sealed over a few drinks after work, surely this manner of networking should work now in these tough times. The food served at the event was of such a high quality that the catering companies involved sealed a few deals for themselves, exactly what they were expect-

ing from this event.
This manner of networking is as old as time itself but getting the

right group of people together, with networking at the forefront can be a challenge. This club has only two rules for members to qualify, being in business and wanting to promote your business to the right people on a oneto-one basis.

Patrick is aiming for one informal meeting a month at various locations in the Algarve, where members are all welcome to bring a guest with them, this will give the guest an opportunity evaluate the club and hopefully become a member themselves, also ensuring there are always new business people to meet at the meetings.
You can have a look at a movie

in four chapters which was taken on the evening of the first meeting on www.1000companie salgarve.com.

salgarve.com.
If you would like to join Business Club Algarve or need further information please contact Patrick Molenaar on patrick@1000companiesalgarve .com or mobile: 919 186 453.





A psychological advantage in Silves and Rocha

Dra Catarina Boal Pontes is a new addition to the mental health profession in the Algarve. She is a trained, certified psychologist who has relocated from Lisbon, where she studied and worked, and has recently returned to her native Algarve in order to provide services to Algarve residents.

She is enthusiastic about offering people methods of coping with the difficulties of stressful life events. Catarina is a fluent English speaker, and can conduct sessions in both English and her native Portuguese.

Covering a wide range of issues which include insomnia, eating disorders and addictions, her specialist area is in the treatment of depression and anxiety.

She says "Depression is one of the biggest problems in our society as it is a silent disease, and people can find it difficult to ask

for help.
With the proper clinical treatment, people can rediscover how enjoyable life can be."

Her other area of expertise is with childrens' behavioural issues at school or home, such as hyperactivity or ADHD, which can be due to emotional factors.

"Through a psychotherapeutic approach it is possible to understand the nature and origin of these problems that legitimately cause so much stress to both child and family."

Sessions are available at two clinics: Clinica João de Deus in Silves (282440030) and Clinica da Rocha in Praia da Rocha (282430880). If you would like further details about how she can help you, or would like to find out about available sessions, phone: 965 303 702, or email: catarinapontes@netcabo.pt.

Messi Roast

Following the success of their recently launched Bistro and due to popular demand, Vicky and Fernando at Avenida Sol in Messines, will be serving traditional Sunday roast lunches starting from this weekend. There will be a selection of delicious roasts to chose from - lamb, beef, pork or chicken with all the usual trimmings and accompaniments you would expect. These are followed with delicious deserts to

tempt your tastebuds, such as apple crumble, rice pudding, apple pie and custard and all at great

Messi Roast is open from 10:00am on Sundays. Treat yourself and the family to a delicious roast dinner and you will receive a free bottle of house wine for every party of four. It is a good idea to book to avoid disappointment. Tel: 282 339 258 Rua da Liberdade no 40, SB Messines



New Business? New Product? Why not let our readers know?

To be included on this page, send details of your new business or product in up to 250 words plus a photograph (optional) to copy@theportugalnews.com

With over 22,000 copies every week, The Portugal News is very effective in promoting viable business ideas.

The Baby Shop



Just opened last week is a new shop for babies and children up to 14 years old. The Baby Shop sells beautiful clothes, accessories and toys at accessible prices and most of the products are made in Portugal.

The Baby Shop is located in

Avenida dos Descobrimentos behind Adega da Marina very close to the city centre.

It is open from 10:00am to 7:00pm including lunch time on week days, and at weekends is open from 9:00am 1:00pm. At Christmas time it will be open all day on Saturdays.

Online drink driving calculator now available



Drivers in Portugal are now able to calculate their alcohol level and whether they are safe to drive with a dedicated online calculator created by the national association of spirit companies (ANEBE).

he calculator, created by ANEBE and available at www.bebacom cabeça.pt, allows users to know their approximate alcohol level from a few key pieces of information such as sex, weight, type of alcohol consumed before, during and after a meal and the time the driver expects to set off home.

ANEBE spokesman Mário

ANEBE spokesman Mario Barreto told Lusa News Agency that the calculator is aimed towards people who are "incapable of separating driving from the consumption of alcohol," helping them to make the decision "of whether or not to drive" after drinking.

"We felt that it wasn't enough to appeal to moderate consumption. We think that the safest way to drive home is without drinking at all, but unfortunately many people cannot separate the two," he added.

Portugal is now the second country in Europe to provide this tool, along with France.

"Our aim will always be to alert youths to the risks of irresponsible behaviour and to contribute to raising awareness of the fact that there is no such thing as good or bad alcohol, but responsible and irresponsible actions," said Mr. Barreto.

The online calculator complements an existing feature on the website, allowing people to simulate what would be a responsible or moderate amount of alcohol to consume, which received 430,000 visitors in one year.

Created in 2000, ANEBE aims to unite Portugal's main spirit producing companies to combat social problems related to the consumption of alcohol. Their alcohol awareness campaign "100 percent Cool" has been running since 2003.



Traffic police test a young man enjoying a night out during a checking operation in Lisbon on 24 July. (Photo: Lusa / António Cotrim)

EU seeks return of €46mn in irregular agriculture subsidies

The European
Commission has asked a
number of EU member
countries to return
nearly €580 million in
irregular agriculture
subsidies, with Portugal
facing a €45.7 million
charge, the third
largest.

Brussels said the requested return of Common Agriculture Policy funds is due to irregularities in fulfilling EU regulations or to poor national control of disbursements.

Greece is the country most penalised, having to return €315 million, while Romania comes second with €46.3 million.

Only France better in new car CO2 emissions - 2009 study

Portugal placed second-best in the European Union in terms of CO2 emissions from new cars sold in 2009, according to a study published last week.

The report by the European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E) showed France beating Portugal for first place for the first time in four consecutive years.

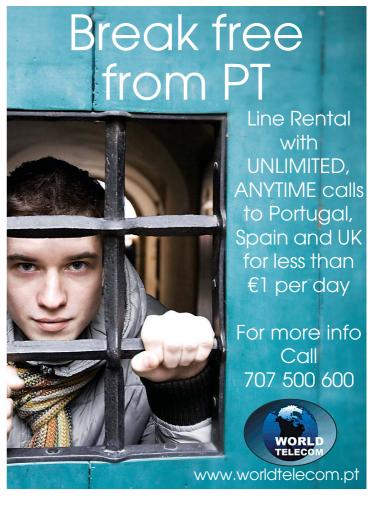
T&E explained the stellar Portuguese performance by the country's relatively low purchasing power, a fact that makes

the Portuguese "very sensitive to the price of the vehicle and to its fuel consumption".

The study showed new cars sold in Portugal last year had an average emission count of 134gCO2 per kilometre.

The EU target for 2015 is 130gCO2/km.





news

Algarve society celebrates all that

is Scottish



Established around 15 years ago, the Algarve Saint Andrew's society is looking to boost its membership and raise awareness of its activities among the community, including its upcoming St. Andrew's Ball.



Doug McAdam, who became the society's chieftain earlier this year, told The Portugal News: "As chieftain, my main aim is to increase awareness and membership of our society, which currently stands at 34 members.

Anyone wishing to join the society is welcome, although most members are either Scottish or have lived in Scotland, there are also English and Dutch members, among others.

"We welcome anyone who has an interest in Scotland or Scottish activities, but our society also hosts general social events such as wine tasting and ten pin bowl-

The main aim of a Saint Andrew's society is to celebrate Scottish traditions wherever there is a community of Scottish people around the world.

"During my career with the British diplomatic service, I joined Scottish societies such as Saint Andrew's and the Caledo-nian Society around the world." He added: "In the Nigerian city

of Lagos, for example, there is a very well established Caledonian Society, of which I was once deputy chieftain. Our events there were very popular and we even had a professional bagpiper flown from Scotland to play for

This month, the Algarvebased society will be hosting its annual Saint Andrew's Ball at Le Meridien Hotel, Penina, near

Portimão on 27 November. St. Andrew's Day celebrates the patron Saint of Scotland, traditionally held on 30 November as Scotland's national day. Believed to be the brother of St. Peter. Saint Andrew became the patron Saint of Scotland around the middle of the tenth century. Several legends state that his remains were brought under supernatural guidance from Constantinople to where the town of Saint Andrew's now stands, after he was crucified on a diagonal cross, which is represented by the Saltire or St Andrew's cross,on the Scottish flag.

The festivities will include a

champagne reception, followed by a buffet, with entertainment from Scottish piper Malcolm MacGillivray and music by Scottish dance band The Sounds of

"We are fortunate in having the Sounds of Islay band flying in to entertain us once again, and our superb Algarve-based piper Malcolm will also be playing for us. It promises to be a super evening and an excellent opportunity to air the glad rags and dig out the dancing shoes," said Doug McAdam.

As well as the Saint Andrew's Ball, the society also hosts a traditional Burn's Night each January at the Ponte Romana restaurant in Silves

Burn's Night celebrates the life and poetry of Scotland's

most renowned poet, Robert Burns. A dinner is traditionally held on the poet's birthday, 25 January, which includes a number of traditions such as the 'address to a haggis', several toasts and speeches as well as the reading of works by Robert

"For this event, we import the haggis and the 'neeps' to ensure that we host a traditional Burn's night supper," said McAdam.

Each year, the Algarve Saint Andrew's Society also makes a donation to a local charity. In previous years, the Alvor-based children's home Lar Bom Samaritano has been the benefactor, however this year's will be decided at the annual general meeting (AGM) in early 2011.

For more information about joining the society or the Saint Andrew's Ball, which will take place from 7:00pm on 27 November, please telephone Kathy Prentice on 916 635 246. Tickets cost €38.50 for non-members and €36 for members. Further details of the Burn's night supper will be released closer to the time.

country dancing or would like to brush up on your steps, contact Cunningham mardie@sapo.pt. Classes are held on Monday evenings from 7:30pm until 9:30pm at the In-

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Elderly use helpline to report abuse for the elderly in the past year have been to report abuse. Around 10 percent of the 2,570 calls made to Portugal's helpline for the elderly in the past year have been to report abuse.

da Justiça (Ombudsman), which runs the helpline, a total of 2,570 calls were received between 9 November 2009 and 8 November 2010, 194 of which were related to physical and psychological abuse towards the elderly

The most common calls received relate to health (244 calls), home help (240 calls), abuse (194 calls), retirement homes (165 calls), complaints (113 calls), abandonment (106 calls), social action (93 calls) and support serv-

Prior to 9 November 2009. the

helpline was suspended for a three month period due to a decrease in calls.

According to the Ombudsman, since the helpline restarted one year ago, the number of calls relating to abuse have increased, while those requesting information about services and support have reduced. Helpline employees deal with each case individually, either offering advice and information or mediating between the caller and the competent authorities to resolve an issue as quickly as possible.

Portugal's helpline for the eld-

erly is free to call on 800 20 35 31 on weekdays between 9:30am and 5:30pm.

The helpline aims to inform the elderly about their rights and benefits in matters such as health, social security, housing, family obligations, equipment and services, among others.

Meanwhile, the GNR police have been undertaking a month long public awareness programme throughout churches, retirement homes and day care centres in Portugal, aimed at informing the elderly about tricks used by thieves and con artists

Members of the National Confederation of Pensioners and Elderly in Portugal demonstrate for their rights and justice in front of Parliament on 26 November 2009. (Photo: Lusa / Mário Cruz)

Citing lack of support for Africa, Lisbon leaves democracy organisation

Portugal has cancelled its membership of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IIDEA) due to the organisation's lack of programmes for supporting democracy in Portuguese-speaking African nations, Portuguese State Secretary for Foreign Affairs João Gomes Cravinho told Lusa News Agency.

IIDEA is a Stockholm-based international organisation for the promotion of democracy worldwide

Portugal was one of its founding member states in

"Despite IIDEA's activity

being very commendable, the fact is they never developed any programmes to support electoral democracy within the [Portuguese-speaking African nations], which was the ground for Portugal's membership", Cravinho said, adding that Portugal must

"make the most out of its re-

IIDEA spokeswoman Monica Ericson declined to comment on Lisbon's decision. merely saying that the organisation has "yet to be officially



Foreign residents decrease in Portugal

he number of foreign residents in Portugal decreased by 0.8 decreased by percent between 2008 and 2009 to a total of around 443,000, according to figures released by the Francisco Manuel Santos foundation's statistics department 'Pordata'.

According to their data, Portugal had a foreign resident population of 446,333 in 2008 which decreased to 443, 102 the following year.

During the same time period, Portugal's national population increased slightly from 10.17 million to 10.18 million. By contrast, Spain's foreign

resident population increased by seven percent during the same time period, reaching 5.6 million. Spain's national population also increased between 2008 and 2009 to 40.177 million.

Our neighbouring country also saw an increase in the proportion of foreigners to nationals, with 11.6 foreign residents for every 100 Spanish national in 2008, which increased to 12.3 in every 100 in 2009.

In Portugal however, the proportion stagnated, with 4.2 foreigners for every 100 Portuguese

707 940 332

nationals in the country.

In relation to emigration, figures for Portugal show that between 2007 and 2008, the number of people who opted to leave Portugal fell from 26,800 to

Spain however saw the opposite as the number of people who opted to emigrate increased from 227,065 in 2007 to 266,460 the



Computer Chronicles

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Windows Phone 7



Microsoft has come back from the dead in smartphones with a slick, fast new phone platform that will prove a worthy challenger to Apple's iPhone and Google's Android platforms.

New Design and User

The first thing Microsoft has done right is throw out the clunky Start menus, folders and files to give us a brilliant integrated hub system built up by a series of 'live' tiles that are neater and more dynamic for the phone user.

The WP7 offers a sleek and minimalistic 2-column design that's not only incredibly easyto-use but also lets you receive the latest updates from your social network at a glance.

Navigation is also smooth and intuitive by way of sliding, scrolling left to right, tilting and swiping to view the rich content

on your phone.

What's most beautiful is that everything on the Start screen is

customisable and built entirely around the user experience.

Can't get through the day without calling your loved ones at least three times? Just 'pin' them to your Start screen and you can reach them with a tap of your finger, without needing to go through your address book or to

Each tile can represent anything (and everything) you love be it a contact, your favourite web page, a song, application or even a hub. Rearrange them any way you like or remove one simply by long-tapping a tile and choosing to unpin it.

A tap on the arrow at the top of the screen brings you a list of all your applications. One downside is that there's no way to classify or categorise these apps and so the screen gets pretty cluttered once you install more of them.

A big plus for Windows Phone 7 is how it seamlessly integrates social activities within six hubs-People, Pictures, Games, Music + Video, Office and the Market-

If you are familiar with the Zune HD music player, navigating through the WP7 hubs becomes even more of a breeze. Both devices are defined by 'Metro', a typography-based design by Microsoft, which features large type fonts, a panoramic design, clean colours and fluid animation.

People Hub

Everything you need to know about your friends and family can be found in the People hub as the phone automatically streams information about them from various sources such as Facebook or their email accounts. This is a function also offered by phones like HTC Sense

Call, text, email your friends or check their latest status update from Facebook simply by tapping on a particular contact.

Simply scroll across the hub to see 'what's new' for everyone's Facebook updates.

Pictures Hub

As with the People hub, all your photos (including albums from your Facebook account) can be displayed. They're shown in little thumbnails and viewable by date or favourites. Scroll to see your friends' latest uploads and even comment on them if you like.

on the go simply by pressing the shutter button to activate the camera even when the phone is off or locked, and you're ready to snap as soon as the phone's out of your pocket.

Once you're done, WP7 uploads and shares your pictures automatically on Facebook or SkyDrive, a Windows Live file storage and sharing system

Games Hub

Several notable Microsoft features have also been incorporated into the phone and they include a mobile Office suite, Zune entertainment platform and of course, the highly anticipated Xbox LIVE.

The Avatar's is extremely adorable-you can tickle or hit him/her, or shake the phone and watch them fall to the ground with a pained expression. If you have the Xbox LIVE hub pinned to your Start menu, your Avatar will even pop up occasionally before disappearing back into the tile.

Basically Xbox presented in a mobile format, the Games hub lets you play your favourite games, look through Spotlight for the latest updates or check out your friends' or your own achieve-ments and gamer profile.

While there are only over 60 game titles according to PC World, the fact is incorporating Xbox LIVE games will offer users rich graphic and gaming expe-

Music + Video Hub

You need not despair if you are unable to get your hands on Microsoft's Zune player, as phone users can now enjoy the same music and video features of the Zune HD thanks to Windows Phone 7

Syncing music is just a matter of drag and drop, though users will need to download the Zune desktop software. Apple users can also rest assured that using WP7 will be a breeze as Microsoft has come up with a basic compatible software called 'Windows Phone 7 Connector', which allows users to sync multimedia content from iTunes or iPhoto to the

Office Hub + Calendar

View, edit, share and sync your Excel, Word or PowerPoint documents with your PC. However, only simple edits are possible with editing options being rather basic: format, highlight and

change font colours. What's new here is the powerful OneNote application, which allows you to make notes, do voice recordings or even snap pictures when necessary. The calendar's also pretty good and lets you plan your daily agenda complete with coloured labels in relation to the urgency of the task at hand. You can also view your calendar by month to find those free days when you can hang out with friends and family.

Marketplace Hub

As with any smartphone, the phone is not complete without apps, and WP7 users can download everything they need for music, games, entertainment, news, sports and more through the marketplace. The apps are sorted between free and paid.

It will be a long time though before Microsoft can catch up to the huge app libraries that make smartphones like the Apple iPhone such great successe

Microsoft has recently hit the 1000 app milestone while Apple has reported a total of 300,000

However, featured apps like Twitter, IMDB and eBay, are already on Windows Marketplace while more developers, such as EA Mobile, are jumping aboard to publish a slew of Xbox LIVE games for WP7 users.

Summary

Microsoft has gained several positive reviews from critics and

deservedly so.

In a world where connectivity and speed is everything, Windows Phone 7 has proven to be a huge lure for social- and multimedia phone junkies, especially with the integration of Xbox LIVE and Zune.

Some gripes however are that users need to sign up for a Windows Live ID to gain full access to phone features such as SkyDrive or Zune. Fortunately, signing up is easy enough even if you are a Gmail email user.

Critics have also complained about the lack of a copy and paste function (which will be solved with an update early next year), video chat functions and the inability to multitask when it comes

to third party applications.
Generally speaking though, those who want a breath of fresh air will love the new Windows









Kurt Pardon • I.T. Director PC Surgery and BlueChipIT part of the Portugal News Group info@bluechip-it.com Tel: 707 940 332





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The Portugal News • 13 Nov 2010 Christmas buzz

Online shopping gifts for the guys



Fed up with socks and ties? This feature showcases big boys' toys, accessories and gifts galore for the guys.



:: City slickers and armchair travellers will love the new Insight Select travel guides, which zoom into some of the most exciting destinations in the world. Snap up the first six to give him a taste of New York, Rome, San Franciso, Istanbul, Hong Kong and London. From Insight Guides (www.insightguides.com).

:: Throw open the doors to cafe society with illy's X7 espresso machine, and bring some Italian flair into the kitchen this Christmas. Francis Francis X7, from Espressocrazy (www.espresso crazy.com).
:: Famed for its sophisticated,

signature scent, spoil the man in your life with Acqua di Parma's Colonia gift collection, with cologne, bath and shower gel, and body cream, from House of Fraser. For stockists visit www.houseoffraser.co.uk.

:: Suited and booted, he'll look even sharper sporting a stylish chronograph, water resistant to 100 metres. By Autograph from Marks & Spencer. For

stockists visit www.marksand spencer.com

:: Retro men will love taking your calls from a 1950s diner style phone. Diner ephone, from Burford Garden Company (w w w . b u r ford.co.uk).

Petrol heads have hours of fun with the Digit Pro Series remote control Ferrari California. Features include digital proportional speed and steering with triband technology. £35, by Silverlit Electronics from Debenhams stockists www.debenhams.com.

:: Budding masterchefs can experiment with Jamie Oliver's Sugar and Spice hamper, which includes mixing bowl with spout, wooden spoon, stripy tea towel, apron, oven glove, baking tin and a trusty timer, from Jamie at

:: Hit the right note with this high gloss, piano black DAB radio from Roberts bellow. With 120 hours battery life, rotary tuning, RDS station name display, iPod/MP3 playback, headphone socket and carry handle, it's the slickest looking music box around. Roberts High Gloss DAB radio, from Roberts. stockists www.robertsradio.co.uk.

:: Available in a rainbow of

these merino wool V-neck jumpers will look great worn over an open white shirt. V-neck jumper, from House of Fraser. For stockists visit www.houseoffraser.co.uk.

:: Share the love with a cashmere scarf, so gorgeous - you may want to borrow it yourself! Cashmere stripe scarf, from Oliver Bonas (www.oliverbonas.com).

:: A must-have in the style stakes, Paul Smith's signature striped Mini flight bag comes with a padded laptop compartment, internal zip pocket and adjustable shoulder strap. Paul Smith Egyptian Room Flight Bag, from Harrods. For stockists visit www.harrods.com.

Sam Wylie-Harris



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Here come the Islamist nuclear

terrorists!



You probably noticed reports recently about the secret trial in Georgia of two Armenian men who tried to sell highly enriched uranium (HEU) to a man purporting to be an Islamist terrorist. The apparent buyer was actually an undercover policeman and the whole thing was a sting operation from start to finish, but it offers some interesting insights into the current state of play in the world of counter-terrorism.



Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili during a press-conference in Tbilisi. (Photo: EPA/Zurab Kurtsikidze)

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The would-be sellers of the HEU were two naive losers, a 63year-old failed businessman called Sumbat Tonoyan who had gambled his money away and a 59-year-old physicist named Hrant Obanyan who was chronically ill. They both wanted to score a big win in order to finance their retirement, and they fell right into the Georgian police trap.

A petty criminal called Garik Dadayan first approached Obanyan in 2002 with a packet of metallic powder, asking whether it was highly enriched uranium. Obanyan, a scientist at the Yerevan Physics Institute. confirmed that it was uranium though he could not say how enriched it was – and Dadayan was subsequently arrested trying to cross the frontier into Georgia with 200 grams (about 7 oz.) of

Dadayan was out of jail again by 2005, so Obanyan knew where to go when his friend Tonoyan suggested that they could make a fortune by peddling HEU to terrorists. Dadayan told them that he had friends in Russia who could supply them with unlimited amounts of HEU, and suggested that they start by finding a buyer and selling him a sample amount of, say, 100 grams. The poor fools believed him.

It's almost certain that Dadayan was working for the Georgian intelligence service by this time (how else would be get out of jail so fast?). The fact that in the end he only gave them 18 grams (half an ounce) of HEU to take to Georgia reinforces that suspicion. And of course it was the Georgian police who supplied the "buyer", a Turkishspeaking undercover policeman who said he was in the market for nuclear material on behalf of

"serious people."

Last March the two mugs took the night train from Yerevan to Tbilisi, with the 18 gms. of HEU hidden in a cigarette box that was lined with lead strips to fool the American-supplied radiation detectors at the border. When Tonoyan showed up at a Tbilisi hotel the next day to close the sale (he was asking \$50,000 per gram), the police filmed the whole transaction and then arrested him and his partner-in-

Georgia's motivation in all this is clear. Prime Minister Mikheil Saakashvili is trying to rebuild the close relationship he used to have with the United States before his rash failed attempt to seize South Ossetia by force in 2008. He will do anything he can to make himself useful to the American intelligence services, and this serves that purpose

Why do the US intelligence services want to emphasise the risk of nuclear material falling into the wrong hands? Because that would be a bad thing, of course, but also to underline the fact that thwarting nuclear terrorism is entirely a job for the intelligence services.

The alleged threat of nuclear terrorism is used to justify the whole US policy of invading countries that might provide "bases" for such terrorist attacks. It was the main (although utterly false) justification for the US invasion of Iraq, and it continues to be used to justify American threats to attack Iran But what do the intelligence people want us to conclude from this episode? That the US should invade Armenia? Obviously not.

They want us to conclude that the military should not be allowed anywhere near counterterrorist operations, partly because the tools they use – infantry, artillery, etc. – are entirely inappropriate for the job, and partly because invading countries tends to radicalise people and turn them into your en-

The little show-and-tell in Georgia serves the purposes of the more intelligent American intelligence officers, who know that the military must be excluded from their operations but have trouble in fending them off. It also helps to justify their budgets, although the threat they are seeking to protect us from is smaller than they

It is smaller because it is almost inconceivable that terrorists could assemble a weapon that would result in an actual nuclear explosion. The technologies needed are just too challenging, and the amount of highly enriched uranium needed is too large; around 50 kg. (110 lbs.), or 2,500 times the amount that the Armenian pair were trying to sell.

"dirty bomb" that just spreads radioactive material over some part of a city is more feasible, but also far less dangerous. It would cause widespread panic and make that district inaccessible for a time, but a well-placed car bomb would probably kill more people.

Nevermind. I'm happy to have themplay their intelligence games, because it just might prevent something like a "dirty bomb" from exploding in an American city. If that did happen, the popular pressure on President Obama to invade some other Muslim country would be well-nigh irresistible. That's not what we need right now.



independent iournalist whose articles published in

Space shortage at Cascais' new hospital



Built to be a model of quality healthcare, Cascais hospital found itself short of space within just three months of opening, with patients being treated in the corridors. The regional health authority says it is surprised by the news while the hospital's administrators blame the lack of space on an unexpected increase in the number of

João Varandas Fernandes. clinical director of Cascais hospital, said that after its inaugura-tion in February the hospital already had patients in beds in the corridors three months later.

"We are at our limit and any alteration to the current situation can only be decided by the government," he said, adding that the situation worsened because the emergency department saw an increase of 28.4 percent in patient numbers as well as the fact that the hospital's catchment area has increased. Cascais hospital, which is managed by HPP Cascais, part of the Caixa Geral de Depósitos group, covers Cascais municipality as well as providing care to pregnant women and babies from eight parishes within the Sintra municipality.

José Miguel Boquinhas, President of HPP Cascais told Público newspaper that the high patient numbers were not forseen in the initial studies on which the public-private partnership contract was based. In his opinion, they are due to the fact that patients prefer to go to a higher quality fa-cility rather than the hospitals and healthcare centres they may have used previously.

To counteract a lack of space at the hospital, the administration has requested of the regional health service to be allowed to turn private patient rooms into double rooms, which has been accepted.

A lack of space however is not the only problem at HPP Cascais, where seven doctors and 29 nurses have already resigned. A spokesman from the Nurses Union said that staff complained about being overworked and overtime was not paid, which has been denied by the administration.

According to João Fernandes, the new hospital has better human resources with 1.066 staff compared to the 913 that the old hospital had.

To beat the lack of space, the hospital's administrators met earlier this month with representatives from the regional health service and have promised to provide "concrete proposals' to resolve the issue.

Portugal's health minister Ana Jorge however said in Parliament earlier this week that the hospital's management is not being very coherent because "on the one hand it is willing to take on more patients" and on the other it has no

According to José Bosquinhas, the "ideal solution" is to build one more floor, which was foreseen in the partnership contract signed in



the government, however this possibility has not yet "been laid on the table."

A plan-contract for 2011 will soon be discussed for the hospital, taking into account the beds available and the number of op-erations and procedures carried out this year. Cascais hospital currently has space for 285 beds, which is 47 more than the old hospital that was closed in February. These extra beds however were placed in units that did not exist in the previous facility, namely intensive care and neonatal care, among others

"We have less space for in-pa-tients than we had before," said Mr. Fernandes, adding: "If Sintra hospital is built (which the government said in February was still on the agenda), then we will be fine. If not, then this hospital should be bigger.

Prime Minister José Sócrates pictured here two years ago unveiling the project for the Cascais Hospital. (Photo: Lusa/ Tiago Petinga)

Lisbon Christmas bazaar

The 26th international diplomatic service Christmas bazaar is due to be held in Lisbon on 4 and 5 December, at the Lisbon Conference Centre.

This charity initiative, promoted by the association of diplomatic families in Portugal will include the presence of around 40 accredited embassies that operate in the coun-

ry.
Supported by Portugal's first lady, Maria Cavaco Silva, the funds from this year's bazaar will revert to charities that help children in need.

Each embassy will have a stand at the event, selling regional products from their countries, such as Turkish rugs, replicas of Egyptian jewellery, silks from China and bread from

the Azores There will also be a gourmet corner, where specialities from around the world can be sampled and bought to take

Visitors can also buy tickets for a tombola that will include prizes such as holidays and gourmet hampers provided by the embassies as well as companies that have contributed to the

The fair will be open from 11:00am until 7:00pm on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, please telephone 213 952 936 or visit the website at www.acdp.pt.

NATO restrictions in place across the capital from next week

As of next Monday pedestrians and drivers in Lisbon will begin to feel the effects of the restrictions being brought into place throughout the Park of Nations area for the upcoming NATO Summit.

Restrictions for the NATO Summit, which takes place on the 19th and 20th of this month, are to be introduced from the beginning of next week and will extend until 21 November.

All traffic will be prevented from circulating along the Alameda dos Oceanos for the duration as part of the security measures.

In a letter sent to the Associa-tion for Residents and Businessowners in the Park of Nations, thePSP's Lisbon Metropolitan Unit, Cometlis, further explained that between midnight on 15 November and midnight of 21 November, "no people or vehicles are allowed" within the perimeter of the restricted area "unless they are associated with the summit or have the required credentials to that effect

PSP police have defined the restricted area as being along the Tejo to the east, along the Alameda dos Oceanos to the west, incorporating the Avenida da Boa Esperança from the Vice-Reis roundabout and the Vasco da Gama Tower to the north, through to the Rua do Caribe intersection, along to the Pavilhão de Portugal and then south until the Doca dos Olivais.

Police will set up check-points along the perimeter. Traffic will be diverted in other areas, including the Avenida da Boa Esperança, Rua do Pólo Norte, Avenida do Indico, Praça do Oriente, Avenida D. João II, Rua do Caribe and Alameda dos Oceanos, and around the Oceanarium

The diversion area will suffer restrictions between 18 and 21 November. Only authorised vehicles and people will be allowed passage and will be searched.

Parking will be prohibited along the perimeter as well as on Avenida D. João II, between the roundabouts of the Vasco da Gama shopping centre and the Campus de Justica.

Traffic in several other areas of the city will also be affected between 19 and 20 November, according to the Cometlis note.

A PSP spokesperson recom-mended that throughout next week residents and employees from the Park of Nations area use public transport.

It was also recommended that between 17 and 20 November businesses avoid meeting with clients or suppliers in and around the Park of Nations, due to significant delays that could occur

because of the restrictions

Last week Portugal confirmed that it would be taking no risks for the summit, which will see the world's most influential leaders gather in Lisbon for the three-day meeting that also coincides with the EU-US Summit.

The "exceptional measures" aim to help guarantee "internal security and the maintenance of public order" during the apex meeting of the alliance, the Ministry of Internal Affairs was quoted as saying by the Lusa News Agency.

Concerned over the threat that terrorists, anarchists and extremists pose, Portugal has involved all its law enforcement agencies and the Ministry for Internal Affairs has issued strict orders that no police officer be given leave for the duration of the two summits.

The decision was made over concerns that the presence of world leaders such as U.S. President Barack Obama could result in huge demonstrations and major disruption in the Portuguese apital in November.

Portuguese officials will there-

fore be on high alert from 17 November to 19 November, when the NATO Summit takes place, which is followed on 20 November by the EU-US Summit.

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Dodgy clams confiscated

More than two tons of clams harvested from the Tagus River, which were unfit for human consumption were seized by Lisbon GNR's Unit for Coastal Control (UCC) last week, just prior to being sold to the public.

The clams were seized by the UCC in Póvoa de Santo Adrião during a fis-cal check and other activi-ties relating to regulations of harvesting and selling of the hivalves. the bivalves.
In total 2,620 Japonica

clams were confiscated, believed to be commer-

cially worth in excess of £21,000. The seafood was said to have been prepared and ready for sale to the public.

After being analysed by a specialist the clams were found to be inappropriate for human consumption and were destroyed.

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Tourism occupancy decreases by 3% across the Algarve

Figures released by the Algarve hotel and tourism accommodation association (AHETA) show that the tourism occupancy levels for the region decreased by three percent in October compared to the same month in

In a press release, AHETA revealed that the average occupancy level across the Algarve in October was 49.8 percent, a three percent reduction from the same

month last year. The greatest fall in occupancy levels was felt in the western Algarve in Lagos and Sagres, which recorded a decrease of 17.3 percent, followed by

Vilamoura, Quarteira and Quinta do Lago with a 6.2 percent decrease and Carvoeiro and Armação de Pêra with a six percent decrease

Meanwhile, Faro and Olhão saw tourist occupancy levels in-crease last month, by 15.7 percent, compared to 2009. Monte Gordo and Vila Real de Santo António saw the highest occupancy rates with 63 percent,

while Carvoeiro and Armação de Pêra had the lowest overall with just 39.7 percent occupancy

Of the different types of accommodation available to visitors, two and three star hotels and apart-hotels saw the greatest reduction in occupancy rates by 7.9 percent and 6.3 percent respectively, while four and five star developments and apartments

saw an increase by 14.1 percent. According to AHETA, the to-

 $tal\,number\,of\,Portuguese\,visitors$ to the region decreased by 26.6

tourists by 31 percent, while the number of British tourists increased by four percent.

Thieves and drug trafficker arrested

rested one man on suspicion of drug traficking, while a further two were detained in Portimão on suspicion of theft from properties in the region.

In a statement released earlier this month, the GNR said that a 33 year-old Portuguese man was arrested on suspicion of drug trafficking, having been found in posession of 148 doses of hashish, 21 doses of cocaine, a small quantity of liamba and €300 in cash.

The suspect, who was ar-rested on Rua 25 de Abril in Albufeira attracted the GNR's attention by acting suspi-ciously. Following an appearance at the Albufeira court, the suspect was identified and released.

Meanwhile, the GNR in Portimão arrested a 52 year-old Moroccan man and his 27 year-old son for theft from properties across the region. During a search of their property, the GNR seized 17 mobile telephones, three digital music players, four digital cameras and a video games con-

According to the GNR, several of the items were identified by their rightful owners from properties that were robbed in Vale do Milho, Carvoeiro, Quinta do Rosal in Lagoa and Dona Ana in Lagos.

Both suspects were identified and must present themselves to the authorities at regular intervals until their



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Dogs and owners walk for charity

More than 200 dogs and their owners set off on a five-kilometre walk in Loulé this Sunday to raise funds for the São Francisco de Assis kennels.

Other walkers brought contributions such as dog biscuits and food for the cash-strapped ken-

Loulé Town Hall councillor Aníbal Moreno said that he hoped the initiative would also raise awareness amongst dog

owners to make them more conscientious regarding how to behave properly in the city

'We have designated dispensers for animals' faeces to be put in but we know that sometimes people do not respect them" he said, appealing to pet owners to be careful and not "damage the quality of life" in the city.

The two-hour walk took place around the northern area of the







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Porches pottery shop robbed in broad daylight

Carrie-Marie Bratley

Last Sunday the Olaria Pequena pottery shop and studio, in Porches, was looted during opening hours in full view of the EN125 main road; around 50 individual large pieces of handmade, hand-painted pottery were stolen, worth in the region of €5,000.

Olaria Pequena was founded nearly three decades ago by Scottish ceramic artist Ian Fitzpatrick It comprises a small shop, behind which is a pottery studio. It is located just off the EN125 near Porches and has a parking space in front of the shop.

"I've been here for 29 years and

never had any problems", Ian told The Portugal News on Tuesday, clearly still shaken by the inci-

"It just goes to show how bad times are if people are willing to steal this kind of thing.'

The stolen pieces would have taken Ian "months" to create and are each worth in the region of €100.

Ian is helped in his studio and shop by assistant Marco Correia, with whom he has worked for some 14 years. Marco was in the shop's studio working at the time of the robbery, which is believed to have occurred between 4:30pm and 5:30nm

"I left at around 4:30pm but the

shop stayed open as Marco was in the back working. He called me around an hour later to say the shop had been ransacked. He didn't hear anything as he had been working with a compressor", Ian ex-

He added, "We're not usually open on Sundays, but as Marco was working we decided to leave the shop open. In fact we very rarely open on a Sunday so it really is a strange coincidence".

Describing the incident as a 'major loss" and a "total shock", Ian is reluctant to speculate on who or how the robbery was carried out.

"I'm totally stumped and I don't want to jump to conclusions", he said, but added "there must have been a few of them [thieves] though, to take 50 pieces in such a short amount of time."

Police investigating have taken fingerprints from pieces of pottery that were moved but not stolen.

Ian is urging the public to keep a look out for the stolen pieces of pottery, at markets and Christmas fairs. They are described as large-size items, "like platters" with designs based on local themes such as lemons and oranges, and are "fresh and contemporary". Most pieces are inscribed with an 'Olaria Pequena' stamp and Ian's signature on the bottom.

"It's not just the financial loss though", Ian continues, "I put a lot of time and effort into those pieces and was very fond of them. It's not like when someone steals a TV and the insurance pays to replace it"

He concluded, "It's a terrible feeling that someone just walked into the shop and helped them-selves without thinking about the effect it would have on oth-

Readers can see examples of Ian Fitzpatrick's pottery on his website: www.olaria pequena.com. To report possible sightings, call Olaria Pequena on: 282 381 150.



Examples of what Ian Fitzpatrick's work may look like.

Nurses fired over illegal contracts

Twenty-two nurses from seven different health centres across the Algarve were fired by phone on Monday this week after irregularities were detected in agreements signed between the Regional Algarve Health Administration board (ARS/Algarve) and the company that provided nursing services.

Following the phone call the nurses did not return to work, Nuno Manjua, from the SEP Portuguese Nurses union confirmed to Lusa News Agency on Wednesday. They are believed to have

been working within an outsourcing regime and had been working for a temping agency for two years.

Mr. Manjua believes this nal (TC) and the nurses imwill greatly affect the level of nursing care in the region as many centres are already running at the limit of their ca-pacities. However, he added that the situation "is not a new

Irregularities in their present contracts were detected by the Accounts Tribumediately told not to con-

tinue with their services.
Nuno Manjua believes
contracting some 30 nurses on a sub-contracting regime would have cost ARS/Algarve around €450,000, €112,000 of which would have gone to outsourcing company.



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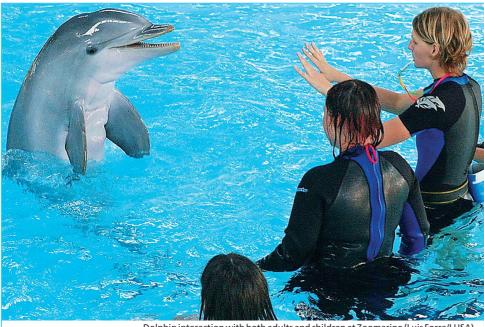


24 agarvenews The Portugal News • 13 Nov 2010 Zoomarine closes for the winter





Guia-based theme park and marine conservation centre Zoomarine has closed for winter, re-opening to the public in March 2011. Although minimum services will be maintained, the park will not take in any injured marine animals while it is closed.



Dolphin interaction with both adults and children at Zoomarine (Luis Forra/LUSA).

With the animals now resting from their summer shows, until March, cleaning and maintenance work is now underway at the park. Throughout the history of the park, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2011, it only closed once in 2003/2004 for a two month period to carryout maintenance and renovation work.

Pedro Zoomarine's marketing director told **The Portugal News**: 'It is not the first time that Zoomarine has closed for the winter. This year, it is closing because of the major decrease in winter visitors, which has been felt recently."

During the closure, the minimum services at the park will be maintained with permanent teams of staff working in the gardens and zoological areas.

"This period will generally be used to carryout work throughout the park that is not possible when it is open to the public," said Mr. Ferreira.

Zoomarine is one of the region's most renowned tourist attractions, with marine biology specialists not only caring for the resident animals and actively educating children about marine life and conservation in schools, but also treating and re-habilitating injured marine animals such as dolphins and turtles.

Albufeira mayor, Desidério Silva told Público newspaper that whenever sick or injured animals come ashore, "the maritime authorities ask Zoomarine to help, it's a public service they provide and they don't receive a penny

Injured marine life will not however be taken in for treatment and rehabilitation by the park this winter, a service which according to Mr. Ferreira "will be assured by other institutions" until the spring.

He added that when the park re-opens on 1 March next year, ticket prices will be revised to take into account inflation and new tax rates.

Meanwhile, Zoomarine dolphin Missy is pregnant. The father of the park's next baby is 50 year-old Sam, the world's oldest captive dolphin.

A due date for the birth has not been revealed, however according to Mr Ferreira: "The birth is due soon, but we do not yet have a name for the baby dolphin."

Medicines contaminate Algarve rivers



A study carried out by scientists from the University of the Algarve has found traces of a range of medicines in the Arade and Guadiana rivers, which have been blamed on the ineffectiveness of the waste water treatment process.

Using sensors placed in the water, the team from the marine and environmental investigation centre detected the presence of medicines such as antiinflamatories, anti-depressants, painkillers and alcaloids such as cafeine in the river water

Scientist Maria João Bebianno told Lusa News Agency that the impact of these traces on public health is not yet known, but the first results should be available at the beginning of next year, after the last samples are collected this

The discovery was made as part

of a project being carried out in cooperation with the University of Bordeaux in France, which lent the sensors

According to Mrs Bebianno, traces of medicines are found in waters throughout the world because water treatment plants do not yet have the technology to eliminate their components.

Medicines taken by the population and passed through bodily waste are released into the sea and rivers after waste water treatment as their chemical components do not disappear.

In the Guadiana River for exam-

ple, the team were able to determine that the surrounding population is more elderly simply from the composition of the medicines that are found in the water.

Medicines administered to animals by veterinarians can also contribute to the concentration of these contaminants in the water.

During the second phase of this study, the scientists will analyse the water samples and try to determine whether the amount of medicines found in the river water increases during the summer months, when there is an influx of visitors to the Algarve.

Faro Town Hall "technically bankrupt"

Faro Town Hall is in need of a €48 million cash injection to avoid bankrupcy, after surpassing its debts of €7.6 million in 2008.

Macário Correia, Faro mayor, has asked the government for permission to take out a \in 48 million bank loan to pay the millions owed to companies by the Town Hall.

"No town hall has closed its doors in living memory," he said, adding that he is willing to "cut down" on current management costs. Faro Town Hall is currently faced with 30 court proceedings relating to unpaid debts to the value of around €15 million, with a further number of companies asking for payment of a similar

"Everyday desperate com-

panies come knocking at our door, "said the mayor, adding that he is optimistic that the loan request will be approved, after being reviewed by the Ministry of Finances and the authority that governs town halls. From this moment on, Faro Town Hall will loose part of its autonomy, being under the "control" of central administration.

In 2008, the Town Hall surpassed a debt of €7.6 million, meaning that it would no longer be allowed to request loans directly but must request permission from central government.

According to Macário Correia, the Town Hall's finan-Macário

cial situation is not entirely the fault of the previous socialist leader, but has been de teriorating progressively for the past decade due to "dissorganisation." A total of 7,388 invoices have yet to be paid.

In order to relieve the pressure on the Town Hall, a total of 180 members of staff have been laid off, allowing savings of two million euros, without affecting services to the public.

Faro's mayor will now have to continue cutting spending at the Town Hall as next year's budget is predicted to be €700,000 less than this year.



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Dazzling Drain Doctor

Drain Doctor Portugal, a company-owned franchise of UK-based Drain Doctor Plumbing, has increased its turnover by 81 percent in the past year despite a difficult trading environment.

The credit for the increase in sales is in no small part due to operations director at Drain Doctor Portugal, Paulo Martins, and his team. Paulo took over at Drain Doctor's Portugal business in early 2010 and

has secured new business to drive the company's growth in the region.

company's growth in the region. For example, he has taken advantage of new legislation in Portugal to take Drain Doctor into new service areas. Since April 2010 it has been compulsory in Portugal to install solar thermal panels to produce hot water. In hotels and resorts it is mandatory to ensure that water held in the system is heated to 70°C to prevent the potential build-up of Legionella bacteria.

Solar heating systems must be serviced on an annual basis. Professional installers and maintenance providers have to be certified by the Direcção Geral de Geologia e Energia (DGGE). Installers need to have the Certificate of Professional Aptitude (CAP) Technician Installer Solar Thermal Systems.

Paulo said: "We saw an opportunity for business growth in this area. To increase business we have ensured that Drain Doctor is a certificated pro-



vider of maintenance services for solar heating systems. Our maintenance technician holds the appropriate CAP certificate."

Drain Doctor Director Jan Mitman said: "I am delighted that Paulo has been able to turn the Portugal business round and drive this growth. He really believes in the Drain Doctor system and he tells everyone he meets about our unique selling proposition."

His well-directed marketing efforts

His well-directed marketing efforts have won recent business including contract work at the recently completed Portimão Race Circuit, which plays host to world-class events such as Superbike Championships and F1 testina

Drain Doctor in the Algarve region covers Loulé, Faro, Silves, Vilamourra, Portimão and Lagos. The company guarantees service 24 hours per day 365 days per year, with a fixed price 'menu' and no call-out or out-of-hours charges.

Home from home at the Casablanca Inn



Having undergone a complete renovation this year, the Casablanca Inn offers guests a home-from-home experience in the traditional Algarvean seaside town of Monte Gordo

This four star hotel, which has an Arabic inspired décor, has a range of facilities including a lounge, outdoor café style seating and ample sized dining room, serving breakfasts and dinners, with views of the outdoor pool and patio area.

The outdoor pool is heated throughout the winter months, from November until April,

There is also an inviting bar area, where guests can relax and listen to live music which is played every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday night.

The Casablanca Inn offers 55 comfortable rooms, each with an en-suite bathroom, television, minibar, fridge, safe, air conditioning and

Open Day at CLCC

Free Health and Wellbeing

access to a terrace on the ground floor or to a private balcony upstairs. Guests can choose a room with

double, separate twin or joint twin beds, for maximum comfort. Casablanca Inn is set in an ideal

location, just a three minute walk from the beach as well as to numerous shops, cafés and restaurants. Families are welcome to the hotel,

Families are welcome to the hotel, which is also ideal for couples wanting to enjoy a relaxing holiday away from all the stresses of life.

"Our hotel has been established and running successfully for 25 years. We aim to make our clients' stay at the Casablanca Inn the best part of their holiday," said a spokesman from the hotel.

Staff at the Casablanca Inn will always give clients a friendly welcome and speak a variety of languages including English, German and Dutch, among others.

This Week's profiles:



Drain Doctor

For more information, please visit the website www.draindoctor.pt. Alternatively telephone 289 425 480.



Casablanca Inn

For more information about the Casablanca Inn, located on Praceta Casablanca in Monte Gordo, please telephone 281 511 444 or email hotel@casablancainn.pt. Alternatively, please visit the website, available in English at www.casablancainn.pt.



Algarve Curtains

For more information please contact Lynnee Thorpe at Algarve Curtains on 282 493 238, 964 677 699, or visit her workshop on Rua Infante Dom Henriques, no. 42 (on the road into Ferragudo from Portimão just a few hundred metres after the new 'Vitor's Village' development). It is advisable to phone ahead of workshop visits.



CLCC

For more information on any of the courses or activities contact CLCC-Centro de Línguas, Cultura e Comunicação on: Rua D®.Maria Luísa, 122, Portimão, Algarve, 8500-648 - Portugal. Tel: 282 430 250 / Fax: 282 430 255. E-mail: geral@clcc.pt, or see website: www.clcc.pt.

Customised curtains create a



Ready-made curtains may be a cheaper alternative to having soft furnishings made-to-measure, but very rarely are they more than just a cost-friendly compromise.

Algarve Curtains specialises in

Algarve Curtains specialises in handmade soft furnishings crafted from quality materials to be the perfect fit and be a long-lasting embellishment of the home.

At the Algarve Curtains workshop there are hundreds of material samples to choose from. Also there are various curtain poles and tracking systems to choose from, some of which can be custom-made to suit different window shapes. Nearly all products used are sourced within Portugal apart from a few things used in the making up which are not available here but are essential for a better finish.

Algarve Curtains was established by Lynne Thorpe eight years ago. Lynne has more than 25 years experience in producing the most beautiful curtains and cushions. Her creations have graced some of the UK's most prominent homes and establishments, including the abodes of celebrities and Bon Secours hospitals in Buckinghamshire and Glasgow.

"People buy ready-made because it's quicker and cheaper, and some are ok", Lynne reasons, but adds "some are not well made up and quite often don't fit the windows".

She explains, "Sometimes for a lit-

tle more people can have a much superior finish; and handmade curtains don't have to be expensive, they can be made to suit all budgets".

An item Lynne is finding particularly popular at the moment are 'hanging bed-heads'; a fashionable alternative to normal bed-heads in which oversized cushions are made to measure and suspended from a rail fixed to the wall above the head of the bed. Large cushions are designed to sit flush with the wall and covers can be removed and washed.

"They are a great, modern idea for rental properties", she says. As well as curtains and 'bed heads',

As well as curtains and 'bed heads', Lynne specialises in cushions of all shapes and sizes for both indoors and outdoors, as well as light soft furnishings and soft blinds. Lynne is more than happy to offer her expertise to customers who are in need of a little advice on what would work best in their homes. Home visits are carried out for customised fittings. After 25 years in curtain and soft-furnishing making, Lynne is still as passionate about it as she was when she first set out. She believes in working closely with the client to achieve quality and perfection.

"Ithink it's a talent that comes from my great Aunt, she was still making her own clothes at the age of 94", she laughs.

Covering the whole Algarve, Algarve Curtains also provide the delivery, styling and fitting of all products.

On 16 November a free-to-all Health and Wellbeing Open Day will take place at the Centre Of Language, Culture and Communication (CLCC) in Portimão.

This year CLCC is introducing new courses of Tai Chi, Yoga, Autogenic Training, Progressive Muscle Relaxation and Jazz Dance.

The purpose of this event is to learn more about these new classes

The schedule is: 7.00pm - Tai Chi Chuan

7.00pm - Tai Chi Chuan 7.30pm - Autogenic training

8.00pm - Hatha Yoga 8.30pm - Progressive Muscle Re-

laxation
9.30pm - Jazz Dance
Participation in the event is totally

free of charge.
CLCC is a private institution lo-

cated in Portimão that has already been in existence for more than 16 years.

The company is officially recognised by DGERT - Direcção Geral do Emprego e das Relações de Trabalho, the Ministry of Education and the British Council.

The CLCC has a large number of teachers certified by the IEFP - the Portuguese Employment and Professional Training Institute.

fessional Training Institute.

During its 16 years of existence more than 10,000 students and thousands of private and public companies have taken a course at the CLCC, in Computing, Lan-

guages and Management.
The CLCC has taught more than 200,000 class hours in total.

Many different courses are avilable, morning and evening.

clubnews

Hash Harriers Halloween



The Algarve Hash Harriers

The Algarve Hashers returned from a weekend in Tomar, lots of exercise, drinking and exploring the wonderful Monastery and town. We stayed at Camping Redondo which is run by a couple of hashers so they knew our funny ways and took us on some very scenic trails. One trail led to a 61km long lake where we took over a bar and enjoyed a beer or two after a very hot hash - well

that's our story.

The Halloween Hash was well attended by many witches, wizards and some very ugly skeletons plus a ferocious wolf. We followed a lovely trail set by the witch of Porsches who made sure we worked for our lunch. We met at Porches Pottery and got some very funny looks from passersby who thought the Pottery was open until they saw us motley crowd. They will probably never return! Those Hashers who did not dress for the occasion were given a penalty of a beer - they probably just wanted a beer.

The next Hash is on Sunday, 14 at Moncarapacho. If you fancy joining us for some exercise, good company, beer and nosh please call Sylvia 289 413854 918806044 or Mick 919518161

Memorial Golf Tournament for Disabled Riders

On 4 November Quinta do Lago Golf Club held a tournament in memory of Linda Einwallner, who died in August.

Due to the generosity of the members taking part, a splendid sum was raised in aid of Riding for the Disabled in the Algarve. The monies will be used to sponsor the riding therapy of the Associação Portuguesa de Paralisia Cerebral (Association for people with Cerebal Palsy) for one year.

Rosemary Owen, Chairman of RDA, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have received this very generous donation. Linda took a very active interest in the running of our Association for many years and I am sure that she would be very happy to be re-

Wednesday, 17 November -

A 21/2 hour circular walk that

will take us to the top of Picota

with fantastic views. There is a

climb but we will go up the gradual, easy way! 10.30am

start. Drive up to edge of

Monchique Town, after passing

the petrol stations turn right to-

wards Alferce. Follow the road

for almost 2km, where there is a

road to the right (just before the

Choupal cafe), turn here and drive uphill when at the top of the

climb there is a T-junction, meet

Algarve

Let's Walk on Picota

Walking in the beautiful



Linda Einwallner

membered in this way. We are most grateful to the organisers of the tournament and to all who took part to pay such a worthy tribute to a wonderful lady."

Everyone is very welcome,

just come along. While these walks are suitable for all of av-

erage fitness do remember you

are responsible for your own safety so wear suitable shoes,

boots or trainers, bring some

water and a sense of humour. There is a charge of ϵ 5 p.p. for

each walk. If it is raining please

check with me that the walk is going ahead. Dr. Julie Statham.

www.portugalwalks.com,

www.pedalinportugal.com. Tel: Portugal 965753033. Tel:

UK 08717113315. A Responsi-

ble Travel member.

Algarve Bowls Report

Greens ground nuts - crusaders skin cats

Round five and some more interesting results to keep the pot boiling. Alvor Greens finally found some of the form that won them the title last season and took a maximum eight points off the Amendoeira Nuts by 94-25. Their position was helped by the Albufeira Cats being defeated away to the PDF Crusaders 65-36, Crusaders taking the full eight points. Alvor Amigos also stumbled to a 53-45 defeat away at the Valverde Vikings, also dropping the full eight points into the bargain.

Valverde Vulcans entertained the Alvor Harlequins who have been recovering from a slow start to their season. Harlequins had a good away win by 61-43 and earned a further six points to two. Alvor Gladiators were at home to the Tavira Tigers and a close match was finally won by the Gladiators 59-52, though the points were shared four each. The final match was between the Pedras Panthers and the visiting PDF Sinners. Panthers continued their good form by beating Sinners by 57-38 and scooping all eight points.

The league table is one of the closest and most interesting for some years. Cats remain on top despite their reversal at Crusaders and have 28 points, however Vikings now join them on this total but stay in second on shot difference. Greens ease up to third after their convincing return to form and now have 27 points, just ahead of Harlequins on 25. Panthers are also doing well with 24 points, whilst Crusaders rise to sixth on 22, just ahead of the Amigos who drop to seventh with 21 points. Tigers have 17, Gladiators are on 16 and the Vulcans have 14 points. Nuts remain on 10 and Sinners remain at the bottom with 8 points.

Alan Clarke – League Director

Royal British Club Trophy



L to R: Graham Dewar, Winner Bill Buxton, John Duggan and George Everett.

This month the Royal British Club Golfing Society had a very large field to play for the Royal British Club Trophy – and the weather was beautiful. Thirty two players – including six guests - completed the round though scores were not very im-

We were grateful to John Duggan, a member of the Royal British Club Committee for presenting the prizes and for giving us an update on the initiatives being taken by the Committee to revitalise the Club.

Awarding the prizes to the first six players was a little more complicated than usual because of numerous count backs. Winner, Bill Buxton, with 31 points was followed by George Everett in second place, Graham Dewar and Isabel Nygren in third and fourth places respectively – obviously all on the count back. In fifth place was Derek McIvor followed by David Jackson both with 30 points after another countback. The Newstead Tro-

Photo: The Senior Bikers take a break for a chat.

phy was won by David Thomas, the Nearest the pin for Men was awarded to Ewan Rankin. The Captain decided to award two guest prizes this month - Lady guest to Evelyne Marret and the Men's guest prize to Melvyn Shoob. Axel Beslin won the Cow Bell with the free lesson from professional Gordon Young and Brenda Leitão won the Captain's Mini Cowbell – a single malt whisky.

The next, and last, competition of the year will be for the President's Baffy on 3 December followed by the annual gala dinner at the Hotel Inglaterra, Estoril, that evening.

WRVS Social Tea The next WRVS Social Tea

will be held in the British Retirement Residence Quinta da Fonte. S. Pedro do Estoril on Tuesday, 16 November at 3pm. The minimum donation for the WRVS charity is €1.

Commemorating the Bi-centenial of the Peninsular War, there will be an illustrated talk about the recent visit of the British Historical Society to Bussaco on the Anniversary of the Battle, and its re-enactment. This will be followed by delicious cakes, sandwiches and tea. We will also be selling jam, and taking orders for Christmas Puddings, all home-made; proceeds to our charities. Everyone is most welcome. Bring a friend! For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance with Pam on 214 688 694 or Ruth on 916 192 183.

Saturday, 13 November: Bike Ride starting in Alte. We meet on Av. 25 de Abril between the cemetery roundabout to the town centre at 12:45 for a 1.00pm start. This will be a fairly challenging ride on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads and there will be cafe stop somewhere along the way.

Ride starting in Tavira, we meet in the car park by the new river bridge near the Vila Gale hotel at 09:45 for a 10:00 start. This will be a mostly easy ride on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads and there will be a cafe stop somewhere along the way.

Algarve Bike **Rides**

Sunday, 14 November: Bike

For more information call Paul Beesley on 913226954 or e.mail: paul.beesley@sapo.ptor visit 'Algarve Bike Rides' on

Visit to the Nova Cortiça Cork Factory

Members of the Algarve Wine Society visited the Nova Cortiça cork factory in São Brás de Alportel on 3 and 8 November. Two visits had to be organised, as places were very quickly oversubscribed.

Eng. Gilmar Brito, the biochemist responsible for the factory's laboratory, gave a very elucidating presentation and answered the many questions put forward by the visitors before guiding them through the labyrinth of the factory floors.

We learned that Portugal is the leading country in the world for cork production; 52% of all the cork grown and processed hails from Portugal. Cork oaks grow exclusively in Mediterranean countries, and the absolute best quality cork is grown in the hills

behind São Brás in the Serra do Caldeirão. This superior product is reserved and destined exclusively for the best French champagne stoppers. A cork oak is 43 years old be-

fore its cork bark (after the third stripping) is mature enough for processing. Stripping at nine year intervals is beneficial to the tree. Trees grow to between 250-350 vears old, and can be stripped about 20 times, before they become unproductive.

There is not enough natural cork grown to cover the world's ever-growing need for bottle stoppers, hence the growth in demand for plastic or screw top stoppers.

The visit was followed by a good lunch at the Vila Velha restaurant in old São Brás.

Senior Bikers at the border

On 6t November, 29 members of the Senior Bikers Group, the best turnout for any single event since the group was started, made the most of the autumn sunshine and after meeting at São Brás de Alportel headed east to Castro Marim, where a break was made for coffee near the castle. Also a chance to chat and get to know the several new members attending for the first time. Leaving the main roads we continued towards Alcoutim following the route planned by Mike Sanders. riding along the banks of the

Guadiana River all the way to old town. The river forms the border between Portugal and Spain, An excellent lunch at the Restaurant Típico in the main square. After lunch the route followed the old roman road to Martim Longo returning to the starting point via Cachopo.

For bookings and information contact David Shirley, e-mail: dayethemoto@gmail.com, tel. 282444061/918421613 or go to: www.algarveseniorbikers.org.

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The Angels soared!

Last week at São Brás Museum, The Angels Theatre Group performed their latest production of a Music Hall Revue, raising €6,000 to benefit both the Centre Algarve Charity and the Museum. All three nights were a complete sell out, in spite of poor weather, and the audience an-



Founders of The Angels Theatre Group: (L) Joy Behennah and (R) Marion Griffiths, Photo: Peter

plauded a most professional show and many went home happy winners of a raffle with splendid prizes.

Guest artisit Edison Verbisck played his violin with great verve and accomplishment. He was followed by Catherine Harmann, who led the Scottish themed fi-

nale into the Gallery by playing the bagpipes. It was a rousing end to a wonderful evening.

The Angels Theatre Group raise money for charity. They are currently rehearsing for Christmas their Cracker Show, which will be performed for one night only at the Holiday Inn Algarve (formerly Hotel Garbe) Armação de Pêra on 4 December. This show will benefit the Central Algarve Special Needs Holiday Centre.

The evening's entertainment will start the Festive Season in traditional style. The Salvation Army Band will be playing and the Al-

Grand Variety Show 2010 garve Junior Song and Dance Group will also perform. The Angels programme will include com-

Variety is the spice of life - and what better way to get into the Christmas Spirit than a night out at the Lagoa Auditorium on Sunday, 5 December watching a parade of entertainers performing for your delight whilst raising much needed cash for charity.
For the fourth year running the

organisers of the Grand Variety Show will be bringing together a line up of professional artists many of whom have never been seen before in the Algarve and along with popular Ian Carfrae as your host, comedy is guaranteed.

This stimulating evening will be hoping to gain your support for the 'Bombeiros Voluntarios de Lagoa' affectionately known as 'The Soldiers of Peace' and



amongst the many artists lined up to give freely of their talents with Dixieland jazz are The New Orleans Jazz Band.

There will be dancers, singers and classical musicians, with something for everybody all in support of the courageous men

and women who apart from risking their lives fighting the all too frequent fires that blaze in the Algarve also operate many other emergency services.

Tickets are priced at a very reasonable cost of €12 and can be reserved by phoning 282789608.

St. Patrick's Society Quiz

A lively evening is expected on Friday, 26 November when St. Patrick's Society members and friends gather for a quiz night at the Brasserie Rosal, Vale del Rel, near Lagoa followed by dinner. The evening starts at 7pm. Ticket prices, including wine, beer and coffee are €22.50 for members, €25 for non-members. As at other regular St. Patrick's Societv events, non-members will be most welcome.

edy sketches and poems, sing-a-

long Christmas Carols and there

will be a guest appearance from

Suzanne and Victor from the

Jeffries Theatre Company. Wear a Christmas Hat (Father Christ-

mas, Antlers, Elf, etc.) and receive

a free ticket for a separate raffle. Tickets are €29 available at the

Holiday Inn or Joro Shop in

Almancil. The price includes the Show, a full Festive Buffet with

wine, and sing-a-long carol song

sheets. Buffet starts at 7:00pm

and the curtain goes up at 8:30pm.

Holiday Inn tel. 282320260. Joro shop tel. 289390830 ext 4. The

Angels Theatre Group can be con-

tacted on 966086181, e-mail: the

angelstheatreco@live.com or see:

www.angelstheatregroup.com.

tions and seating preferences call Society secretary, Jenny Gannon, on 282 352022, e-mail: jeniggy@googlemail.com Cheques can be sent to treasurer Iggy Gannon at CP1022X, Casa do Sol Nascente, Val del Rei,

The St. Patrick's Society is a convivial social group open to all nationalities. Joining is easy Yearly membership costs only €10 per person, €20 per couple. For more information call membership secretary, Helen Cafolla, 289586662, helen.algarve@sapo.com.

This annual event is always popular so book as soon as possible. Seating will be in tables of six. For bookings, menu selecLagoa 8400-386.

Events at the Museu do Trajo in S. Brás de Alportel

Saturday, 13 Nov. at 7:30pm an Art Exhibition Preview featur-ing works by Adérita Silva, Jane Page, Rosina Boxall, Sue Findley and Petra Kartak. Entertainment by Aperitivo and Musical Trio All our Yesterdays



Sunday, 21 Nov. at 5:00pm the Jazz Club presents the In-Tento-Trio. Established in 2005. the trio (pictured below) were created by Fernando Pessanha, a pianist, in cooperation with João Melro on drums and Pedro Reis on bass. This band will play a mixture of Jazz/Rock and Classical music originals.

Sunday, 5 Dec. between 11:00am - 4:00pm a Christmas Bazaar at São Brás Museum, if you would like to participate please contact us on 966329073 also see: www.amigos-museu





In-Tento-Trio

Classical riding presented by Sylvia Loch

The Algarve used to be considered a cultural backwater but nowadays this is no longer true with a plethora of events to please

In the Algarye horse scene this is also true. On Monday 1 November 30 keen horse enthusiasts travelled from as far as Lagos, Ourique and Tavira to the Pinetrees Riding Centre in Almancil for a talk on classical riding given by the world re-nowned writer and eminent equestrienne Sylvia Loch.

Sylvia spent many years liv-ing in the Algarve in the early 70's when tourism was new and regularly returns to Portugal to give riding clinics or to judge horse competitions. Her equestrian experience in Portugal has given her a passion for the qualities of the Lusitano horse and she has done much to promote this prestigious breed world wide.

Her talk enthralled her audience with her enthusiasm for the classical principals, and therefore concern for the well-being of the horse, when horse and rider blend as one and flow.

This event, sponsored by Pinetrees as part of the 25th anniversary of the school, gave the social opportunity for people to meet over drinks and nibbles and make new contacts. Those present varied from horse owners to managers and trainers of equestrian facilities and all went away uplifted and enthused to, as equestrians say "to go for-

Portuguese history talk

'The Military Orders in Portugal' by Peter Kingdon Booker on Tuesday, 16 November at 6.30 pm in the Convento São José, Lagoa - admission €2, and on Friday, 28 November at 11 am, in the Municipal Library, Tavira admission Free.

"I was told recently that the 'Military Religious Orders' was not an interesting subject. It was not until I began to research the medieval aspects of this topic that I realised the full extent of the effects of these Knights and their Orders on the history of Portu-

serving Portuguese citizens; the Temple at Tomar still dominates Portuguese history; the Order of Christ financed the Portuguese discoveries, and so shaped the history of the world; and the pattern of landholdings in the Alentejo perpetuated by the Military Religious Orders contributed in large part to the Communist takeovers after the Carnation Revolution.

Not only is this subject very interesting, but the Military Religious Orders of Portugal have

gal," Mr. Kingdon Booker said. had a defining role in shaping The Orders of Avis, Cristo and Portuguese and world history. 5th Annual Shoebox Drive

Castelo de Sonhos is a registered charity and has more than 200 elderly in need living in the Silves area. This Christmas we would again like to help them and are now planning the 5th Annual shoebox drive for them. The boxes will be delivered by the Castelo dos Sonhos team.

for the Elderly

Here is what you need to do: Find an empty shoe box. Most shoe shops are only too pleased to give you one.

Decide whether your gift will be for a man or a woman. Fill your shoe box with a variety of gifts (each gift may be individually wrapped) see suggestions below. Please pack carefully and wrap breakables

4. Wrap the shoebox and label whether for man or women, or

Deliver filled shoeboxes to Castelo dos Sonhos, Silves or the Holiday Inn Algarve (formerly the Hotel Garbe) between 15 November and 1 December.

Suggested gifts: shampoo, soap, body lotion, bath gel, foam, hairbrush, comb, mirror, woolly hat, gloves, scarf, socks, hankies tights, small shawl, sewing kit, shower cap, torch, tissues, face cloth, comb or brush, tea towel small notebook and pen, sweets, chocolate, cakes, biscuits (ensure they are well in date), small ornament. Christmas decorations. Christmas card. Please do not include medicines.

For more information please contact David or Celia Mossman on 282332665 or dacemoss@sapo.pt

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Party Land: Av. Ceuta, Edif. D. Manuel I, Bloco A, Loja A, Quarteira Tel: 289 380 602 • solucoesalegres@gmail.com • www.partyland.pt

Spirit of HRISTMAS Fair

TWO VENUES, HUNDREDS OF GIFT IDEAS 11.00 - 17.00

December 1st: Oceano Atlântico, Portimão (Continente on left, then left off the 2nd roundabout)

December 8th: Vila Sol Hotel, Vilamoura (Aquashow road)

Bookings: algarvexmasfair@vahoo.com

Stalls: 75.00€ for one fair, 125.00€ for both

Carol Singing | Christmas gifts: Jewellery, books, toys, $fashion\,wear,\,bed\,linen,\,cosmetics,\,decorations\,\textbf{Christmas}$ food: Cakes, puddings, pies, sauces, cheeses, smoked salmon | Christmas sundries: Gift wrap, cards, crackers, tree and home decorations | Bar, snacks and restaurant service available | ENTRANCE FREE

In aid of the ACCA and Madrugada charities



event

PREVIEW

Coldplay in Guimarães

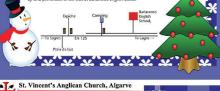
It has been announced that Coldplay will take part in the closure of the festivities of the 'Plano de Acção Fundação Cidade' next year in Guimarães, according to sources. It will be the fifth time that the English band which recently postponed the release of their fifth album - will perform in Portugal, having been at the Pavilhão Atlântico in Lisbon in 2003 and 2005, the MTV Awards ceremony in 2005 and Paredes de Coura music festival in 2000. The 'Plano de Ação da Fundação Cidade de Guimarães' will start on New Year's Eve 2011 / 2012 and is already expected to attract over one million and a half party-goers during the 365 day celebration, which will have over 500 cultural events in the Guimarães area including the speacial concert on the final day by Coldplay However, it has yet to be confirmed officially by the band











Madrugada

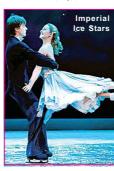
Cinanima international cinema festival of animation until Sunday, 14 November at Espinho at the Multimeios Centre



DANCE

Maiorca on Saturday, 13 November at Teatro José Lúcio da Silva in Leiria.

Imperial Ice Stars from Tuesday, 16 November until 21 November at Oporto Coliseu. Tickets from: €12.50



Cinderella until the 29 at Balleteatro November Auditorium in Oporto. Call 225 508 918

EXHIBITIONS

The Tale of Abel Salazar until 27 November at Museu Nacional Soares dos Reis on Rua D. Manuel II in Oporto.

Warhol TV at Berardo Modern and Contemporary art museum until 14 November.

Ecological Jewellery exhibition by jewellery students until 15 November at Casa Museu Marta Ortigão Sampaio

Porto Multíplos exhibition of serigraphy about Oporto at Restaurant Via Garret until 30 November.

Photographs on a Journey by João Tuna at Teatro Nacional São João in Oporto until 18

Look Up! Natural Porto art Show about Oporto architecture and design throughout the city of Oporto until 19 December. Visit www.lookupporto.com more information

Bodies Revealed at Congress Centre of Alfândega in Oporto until 31 December.

It's Not My Fault sculptures at Berardo Modern Contemporary art museum until 9 January 2011.

Let's Talk About Houses Modern and Berardo Contemporary art museum until 16 January 2011.

Fragments at Berardo Modern and Contemporary art museum until 23 January 2011

FAIRS

Porto Belo market inspired on the London Portobello market every Saturday at Praça de Carlos Alberto in Oporto from

FESTIVAL

Back to Baroque until 14 November at Casa da Música in Oporto with a variety of music. including: November: O Despertar do Concerto from 6pm. Tickets: €11. 14 November Música Sacra Portuguesa. Tickets: €7,50

MUSIC

Guimarães Jazz until Saturday, 20 November at Vila Flor Cultural

Rui Veloso on Saturday, 13 November at part of the 30th anniversary of the Multiusos centre in Guimarães from 11.30pm. Tickets from €15.

Rodrigo Leão on Saturday, 13 November at Oporto Coliseu from 9.30pm. Tickets from: €15.

Mariza on Saturday, November at Póvoa de Varzim Casino. Tickets from €70. 25 November at Oporto Coliseu from 9.30pm. Tickets from €18. 29 November at Coliseu dos Recreios in Lisbon from 9.30pm Tickets from €20.

Espiritual Concert on Sunday, 14 November at Casa da Música in Oporto from 12pm.

Jazz Galp until 14 December at Casa da Música in Oporto

Hugo Reis on Portuguese Guitar on Tuesday, 16 November at Casa da Música from 7.30pm. OuTonalidades until

December at Estarreja Cine-Teatro in Oporto, Call 234 811 300. Ensemble Klangform Wien on Friday, 19 November at Casa da Música in Oporto from 9pm

TALKS

What Kind of World is This? Talk on Thursday, 18 November on 'Um Mundo Quase Perfeito (A nearly perfect world) from 9pm at Hotel Infante Sagres on Praça D. Filipa de Lencastre, 62 in Oporto. Call 226 081 919. Entrance is free.

Porto in XV and XVI centuries Thursday, 18 November at Casa do Infante from 9.30pm.

THEATRE

Culture & Administration by Antonija Livingstone and Jennifer Lacey on 13 November at Mosteiro São Bento da Vitória in Oporto from 9.30pm.

Canto do Cisne e Malefícios do Tabaco by Anton Tchékhov until 21 November at Carlos Alberto theatre in Oporto. Call 223 401 900

Shadows - Our sadness is our delight a mix of Fado live music and acting from Thursday 18 November until 28 November at Teatro Nacional São João in Oporto. Tickets from: €12.

River Guardian Palmilha Dentada Theatre in Oporto until 3 December. Tickets: €10

WORKSHOPS

Observations of Paintings on Monday, 15 November from 12.30pm or 2pm at Casa Museu Marta Ortigão Sampaio in Oporto

COMEDY

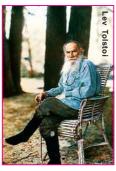
Caderneta de Cromos Live on Monday, 15 November at Coloseu dos Recreios in Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets from €20. Sex? Yes Please until 27 November at Teatro Independente in Oeiras from



A Seriedade do Animal on Saturday, 13 November at Belém Cultural Centre from 7pm.

EXHIBITIONS

Lev Tolstoi Centro Cultural de Belém dedicates two days 20 and 21 November to renowned Russian writer Lev Tolstoi (1828-1910). Includes photographic exhibition. presentation of the film War and Peace and talks about the writer and his works. Free entrance



Africa: See You, See Me! until 28 November at Belém Cultural Centre, Call 218 170 828.

My Lisbon by Jacinto Luís until 30 November at Lisbon Casino. Jacinto Luís paintings at Estoril Casino in Lisbon until 30 November, from 3pm until midnight, Call 214 667 700.

Casa-Carrosel by Fátima Medonça until 31 December at Gallery 111 in Lisbon. Call 217

Bicos by Eduardo Batarda until 31 December at Gallery 111 in Lisbon.

Regis Gonçalves paintings until 4 December at Galeria Colorida on Rua Costa do Castelo in Lisbon.

School at Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon until 19 December. Entrance is free.

Moçambique at AAAIO Largo da Luz in Lisbon until 31 December, Call 214 351 054 for more information.

Professores diverse exhibition by several artists at Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon until 2 January, 2011. Entrance

Let's talk about Houses architectural exhibition until 16 January, 2011 at Cascais Cultural Centre.

Res Publica at Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon until 16 January, 2011. Entrance €4. Century XXI until 27 February at Arte Centre in Oeiras. Call 914

MUSIC

111 400

Elias de Mendelssohn on Saturday, 13 November at Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €5.

Katia Guerreiro on Saturday, 13 November at Coliseu, Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets: €25.

Daniel Higgs & David Maranha on Saturday, 13 November at Galeria Zé dos Boios in Lisbon from 11pm. Call 213 430 205. Tickets: €8.

Groove Chibanga Saturday, 13 November at Bacalhoeiro in Lisbon from 11pm. Call 218 864 891.

Saxophone Summit on Sunday, 14 November at Culturgest in Lisbon from 9.30pm. Call 217 905 155.

The Walkmen on Sunday, 14 November at Coliseu Recreios, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets: €25



Luís Represas on Monday, 15 November at Lisbon Casino.

Bolero de Ravel Orchestra on Tuesday, 16 November at Tivoli Theatre in Lisbon from 9.30pm

Rui Veloso on Wednesday, 17 November and Thursday, 18 November at Lisbon Coliseu. Tickets from €25.

Paco Bandeira on Friday, 19 November at Coliseu dos Recreios in Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets from €10.

OPERA

Àrias de Luísa Todi on Saturday, 13 November at Almada Municipal Theatre from 9.30pm



AS ÁRIAS DE LUÍSA TODI

SPORT

V Video Poker Tournament on Tuesday. 16 November until Sunday, 21 November at Lisbon

WORKSHOP

The Wonderful World of Comics from Tuesday, 16 November until 21 November at Belém Cultural Centre from

SOUTH

ALGARVE HISTORY

History The Algarve Association's visit to São Domingos from Sunday, 21 November to Tuesday, 23 November Programme: Sunday, 21 November – Evening: Presentation on the Mines by Peter Booker followed by Dinner. Monday, 22 November - Morning: Guided Tour by Dr. Rui Guita. Evening: Dinner followed by a concert performed by the Lacerda Quartet. Tuesday, 23 November - Morning: Film about the Social Impact of the Mines

BALL

St. Andrews Society Algarve on Saturday 27 November from 7pm. Music By Sounds of Islay Ceilidh Band at Le Meridien Hotel Penina in Portimão. Tickets: €36 for members €38.50 for non members. Call Kathy on 919 635 279 for tickets

CHILDREN

Animals and Us - a day on the farm, 13 November - feed farm animals. On 20 November be a vet for a day. 27 November – horse and donkey rides. Call 282 480 730.

DANCE

Scottish Country Dancing every Monday evening at the International School of the Algarve, Porches, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Call Mardie Cunningham on 282356029 or e-mail mardie@sapo.pt.

EXHIBITIONS

Cork Sculptures by Dorneles and Lúcia Silva at São Brás de Alportel gallery until 15 November, Call 289 840 000. Paintings by Ana Cassiano, Daniela Laginha and Pierre Chevron at Déjá Vu in Ferragudo gallery until 20 November, Call 912 876 646. The Moment Paintings by

Romy at Praça do Mar Art gallery in Loulé until 21 November. Paintings,

ceramics and hand-crafted items for the home created by 35 international artists. Current exhibition at Corte-Real gallery in Paderne, includes American artist Jeanine Leclaire, Member of the Pennsylvanian Academy of Art. Until 31 December. Open Thursday to Sunday 11am until 5pm. Call 918 980 199 or 912 737 762

Shintaro Nakaoka at São Lourenço Cultural Centre in Almancil until 1 December Call 289 395 475.

Golf Stream at Vilamoura Estrada de Albufeira, Aldeia



Hípica until 12 December. Free entrance.

Mikki F Arab influences at Café Inglês in Silves. Call 282 442 585

Habits and Customs of Monchique at Parque da Mina in Monchique until 31 December. Call 282 911 622. 100 Anos da 1ª Republica em Tavira at the Music Academy of Tavira. Ongoing until 31 December. Call 281 320 500.

Ten Monumental British Sculptures Exhibition at Cerro da Vila Roman Archaeological Centre in Vilamoura until 31 December. Entrance: €5. Call 289 312 153.

Letters and Colours, Ideas and Authors of the Republic at Tavira library until 31 December

Estados D'Alma by Eduardo Dias at São Brás de Alportal gallery until 31 December. Call 289 840 000.

City and Rural Worlds at Tavira museum and Palácio gallery until 16 June, 2011.

FAIRS

Lagos Discoveries fair until 14 November with various festivities, including: Friday, 12 November, and Saturday 13 Discoveries Fair in the historical centre from 10am to midnight. Saturday, November Histor Historical - Henry the Procession Navigator 550 Years at Lagos Cultural Centre in Lagos from 4pm. Call 282 771 700.

St Martin Celebrations on Monday, 15 November at Tavira Association headquarters from 3pm.

Expo Casamento Wedding Show until Tuesday, 16 November at Quinta da Pomona in Silves. Open from 2pm until 8pm. Call 918 827 481 / 965 434 987. Entrance is free.



MUSIC

Suite das Descobertas by the Orquestra do Algarve on Saturday, 13 November from 9pm at Lagos Cultural Centre. Call 282 770 450.

Enchanted Moorish Maiden on Saturday, 13 November at Teatro das Figuras in Faro from 9.30pm. Tickets from €5. Call 289 888 110.

4th Organ Festival until 27 November in Faro. 13 Nov -Daniel Oliveira at Largo do Carmo. 20 Nov - Edite Rocha at Largo do Carmo 20 Nov -Luca Antoniottie at Largo da Sé. All concerts start at 9.30nm Call 916 782 780

Tavira Church Concerts until 27 November. 13 Nov - Rui Mouring at Chapel of São Sebastião. 20 Nov - Twenty Fingers Duo at Chapel of Santa Ana. 27 Nov - Luís Conceição at chapel of São Sebastião. Concerts starts at 6pm, Call 281 320 500.



Opera Club on Sunday, 14 November at São Brás Museum from 6pm

Ching-Yun Hu with the Orquestra do Algarve on Sunday, 14 November at Faro Teatro das Figuras from 9.30pm. Tickets from €12. Call 289 888

Rita Redshoes on Friday, 19 November at Teatro das Figuras in Faro from 9.30pm. Tickets from €10 Call 289 888 110

Jazz with Everything on Friday, 19 November at Lagos Cultural Centre from 9.30pm.

Caminheiro de Mim on Friday, 19 November from 9.30pm at Albufeira Municipal auditorium. Call 289 599 500.

Michael Jackson tribute show daily at Portimão, Loulé and Monte Gordo Casinos from 10.30pm, Call 289 310 000.

New Orleans Jazz Band at Casa Inglesa restaurant in Portimão every Thursday. Every Saturday at Tivoli Hotel in Lagos from 8.30pm. Call 935 086 365 or visit www.algarvejazz.com.

SPORT

Tap Open amateur golf tournament from Saturday, 13 November until 20 November at various locations, including: Millennium, Pinhal, Quinta do Lago and Vitoria. Email malbuquerquetap@netcapo.pt for more information.



Algarve District Judo Association Anniversary on Sunday, 14 November at Lagos Gil Eanes school pavilion from 1pm until 7pm.

Casinos do Algarve Rally from Saturday, 13 November at Portimão autodromo, Sunday, 14 November at Monchique. Podium at Hotel Algarve in Praia da Rocha, Call 289 400 330.

Bowls Crown Green and Lawn Bowls at Amendoeira. Crown Monday and Thursday. Lawn Tuesday and Friday. Start 10am. All welcome, non members pay €8. Call Peter Clarke 966 169 747 (Crown), Peter Moss 961 165 478 (Lawn).

THEATRE

Chocolate Pickles from Saturday, 13 November until Monday, 15 November at Tayira Cine-Theatre António Pinheiro from 9.30pm.

A Pastilha Milagrosa from Monday, 15 November until Wednesday, 17 November at Lagos Cultural Centre from 9.30pm. Tickets from €5. Call 282 770 450

Temporality on Friday, 19 November and 20 November at TEMPO theatre in Portimão from 4pm. Entrance is free. Call 282 402 475 / 961 579 917.



CARBOOTSALES

Albufeira Saturday, 13 November at Caliços market. Alcantarilha (Silves) Saturday, 13 November opposite the local parish council.

Vila Real de Santo António Saturday, 13 November at Praça Marquês de Pombal.

Ferragudo Sunday, 14 November at waterfront. Chinicato (Lagos) Sunday, 14

November.

Almancil Sunday, 14 November neat C+S school.

Caliços in aid of the Abandoned Animals Centre, first Saturday of the month at Calico Park near Vila Nova de Cacela. Carboot and carvery lunch every 4th Sunday of the month at the Quinta at Fonte do Bispo. Call Cas on 281 952 808

MARKETS

Castro Marim Saturday, 13 November.

Cortelha (Loulé) Saturday, 13

São Brás de Alportel Saturday, 13 November at fairground.

Quarteira (Loulé) Saturday, 13 November Rua Nossa Santa Piedade opposite convent.

Estoi (Faro) Sunday, 14 November next to school. Lagoa Sunday, 14 November at

Fatacil. Silves Monday, 15 November near cemetery.

Aljezur Monday, 15 November next to kindergarten.

Caliços (Albufeira) Tuesday, 16 November.

Quarteira (Loulé) Wednesday, 17 November at Fonte Santa.

Alte (Loulé) Thursday, 18 November at Largo José Cavaco Vieira.

Guia (Albufeira) Friday, 19

UP AND COMING CONCERTS

SANUEL ÚRIA 19 Nov at MEN EATER 20 Nov at Bafo de

SHAKIRA 21 Nov Pavilhão

JOE SATRIANI 22 Nov at

Magna from 10pm. Hard Club in Oporto from 10pm. Tickets €25. MOONSPELL 23 Nov at Casa

PEDRO ABRUNHOHSA 23 Nov

ampo Pequeno, Lisbon from

avilhão Atlântico, Lisbon from

A CHANSON NOIRE 27 November at Albufeira Fnac

IMOGEN HEAP 28 Nov at ALICE COOPER 29 Nov JAMES WALSH 30 Nov DECEMBER

JAMES 3 Dec at Campo

HERBIE HANCOCK 7 Dec at Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets from €22. DEFTONES & TRICE 9 Dec

ADY GAGA & SEMI PRECIOUS WEAPONS 10 Dec

30 SECONDS TO MARS 16 MGMT & AMITH WESTERNS

18 Dec Campo Pequeno, Lisbon. Tickets from €30.

DEOLINDA 29 Jan Coliseu dos

FEBRUARY

SKUNK ANANSIE 7 Feb Coliseu, Oporto from 9pm. Tickets from €25. 8 Feb Coliseu dos Recreios, Lisbon THE SCRIPT 14 Feb Coliseu dos Recreios, Lisbon from

Pequeno, Lisbon from 8pm. Tickets from €25.

KATIE MELUA 13 Mar Campo

ROGER WATERS 21 Mar & 22 Pavilhão Atlântico from 9pm. Tickets from €40.

NAS & DAMIAN MARLEY 14

BON JOVI 31 Jul Parque da Bela Vista, Lisbon. Tickets





Festive Season at the Holiday Inn Algarve (formerly Hotel Garbe)

> **The Jefferies English Thatre Presents** Suzanne Jefferies & Victor Graham in THE GIN GAME

A Comedy by D.L.Coburn Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th November 7pm for 7.30pm Price €30 per person

(3 Course Indian Dinner with wine and coffee)



For more information or to book call: + (351) 282 320 260 or email: info@hialgarve.com

letters to editor

The opinions expressed here are those of our readers and not necessarily of The Portugal News. The editor reserves the righ to edit letters or refuse publication. Send your letters, which wish to remain anonymous on the page), and should be under 300 words, to The Portugal News, Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. E-mail address: letters@theportugalnews.com

Democracy, republic or monarch?

SIR, I was rather shocked at Mrs. Chettel's letter (30 Oct.) stating that I hate democracy. Thanks for telling me, I didn't know. I'm not sure what brought that on. Presumably my letter about America's financial idiocies, pointing out that when politics degenerates into fighting for the votes of lobbyists, that's the end. A rather uncontroversial opinion I would have thought.

As for democracy, it depends which sort you mean. How about the original Greek version? Great system. The country run by those who can be bothered to argue about such things; usually about 3% of the population. About two-thirds don't get a vote as they are slaves, and it's their status that allows the other mob the time to argue about pointless political nonsense. Half of the rest don't get to vote because they are either juveniles or senile old wrecks. Half the rest don't get to vote because they are women, and considered an inferior lot, more suited to sex and gossip than politics.

That leaves about 9% of the population who have the vote. Two-thirds of those never turned up for the meetings because they had more important things to do, which left the decision making in the hands of the 3% of the population who actually cared about such things. I can't say I have a problem with that.

The modern version doesn't really work. No democracy can work in a large community. Most forms of government operate by committee, and as the great Parkinson showed in his exhaustive analysis of government by committee over the centuries (a chapter in Parkinson's Law, I believe, which I'm sure you've all read.... if you haven't, then shame on you) committees break down when the number of members hits the high teens. In short, modern democracy relies on the sub committee. The larger the com-

munity the more need there is for certain groups to lobby to get their case heard in what we might call the top committee. Enter the lobbyists. When the lobbyists take over and start running the top committee you have an end to democracy. You have a war of the oligarchs. That's what you have today in the USA. It's a sort of civil war by proxy.

America used to be a republic. I'm not sure what happened to that. My own choice of government? Monarchy of course. I prefer King Log. However, that does assume a community of adults, reasonably intelligent and with a certain tolerance, disinterestedness, and moral standards

That's a tough one. JOHN CLARE, Arão

EU madness

SIR. I see that those overpaid under worked EU politicians have been at it again - giving away other people's money!

They have now passed legislation which requires employers to grant 20 weeks fully paid leave to new mothers and two weeks 'paternity' leave to fathers. They

also have to ensure that when the mother returns, she has her original job, or one of equivalent sta-

Whilst it is reasonable that mothers should get some financial support during the early months of parenthood surely some reality needs to be applied to the situation. Where is this money coming from?

Not all companies are multinational and not every employer is part of some pseudo-government organisation which doesn't have to make a profit. Whatever we think, all private business exists to make a profit. If it doesn't

Take the situation of a small retailer run by a husband and wife. After a time they decide to employ a person to help and allow them to have some free time. They employ a lady and the business is making a very modest profit as it now has three employees. After a time this lady becomes pregnant and will qualify for 20 weeks fully paid leave. What is the employer supposed to do? Where does the money come from to pay the stand-in for the new mother?

My guess is that employers will be very wary of employing ladies of child-bearing age and will be more likely to employ men or older women. Surely this was not the intent of this crazy legislation?

NORMAN THOMPSON, Guia

Portugal long way from modern democratic state

SIR. Further to my letter regarding the 400% increase in water charges without warning or explanation in Albufeira published on 16th Oct, related letters from others published on 23 & 30 October, and the article in the issue of 30 October regarding people with no qualifications or

experience being picked from the crowd to referee matches such as Benfica v Sporting, etc. All of these facts suggest that Portugal has a long way to go in terms of being a modern democratic state.

While the Government may be addressing its fiscal problems in order to convince international markets to lend it money, what it really needs to do in order to grow the economy and attract investment is to address the appalling deficiencies in the way in which services, be they public or private, are delivered. Bureaucratic practices and requirements which serve no useful purpose and which hinder rather than encourage business, and confuse rather than help the citizen, need to be eliminated, and a consumer orientated user friendly culture need to be fostered in terms of services delivered at all levels. In the Algarve, where you have a high per centage of citizens from other EU countries, public services such as those provided by the Câmara, Finances, Social Security etc, should be available not just in Portuguese but in other widely spoken EU languages.

In the UK and Ireland for example provision exists whereby information on council services and other services such as Social Security, tax advice, etc. is available at least in leaflet form in the $more\,common\,languages\,used\,in$ the area and in many instances specific staff are available to speak with and help customers avail of services in these languages, so why not in the Algarve where 70% of the population is non-Portuguese. Even in cases where one can: 'falar um pouco portugues' the technical terms using relating to accessing public services are very confusing to foreigners and at the very least these forms should be available in the more common languages used in the area together with related advice or explanatory

Just imagine going to Old Trafford or Stamford Bridge to see Manchester United v Chelsea and being picked from the crowd to referee the match, and just imagine an unexplained and without warning increase of 400% for water in Manchester or Dublin and the Daily Mirror or Irish Times being unable to get any explanation, and just imagine lending money to a nation to deliver its public services against a background where official practices exist such as those described in the letters published regarding water charges. Could you really be sure of getting your money back given the difficulties de scribed in getting the money paid in error because of a broken meter as described in my previous letter?

APARTMENT Areias de S. João, Albufeira

Electricity problems?

In our area we occasionally suffer from power cuts. Normally these happen when (i) it is raining and blowing a gale, or (ii) on major public holidays when everyone is cooking at once, or (iii) when it is raining and a public holiday. Christmas Day is a particular favourite.

However, I have at last penetrated the rather impenetrable web-sites provided by EDP for their customers. I am encouraged to observe that, when we next have a power cut, all that we need to do is turn on our computer, click on the map, and find out what is the cause of the lack of power to our house

Our Portuguese neighbours have advised us always to ring up and complain whenever there is a lack of power. They say that action may not be triggered until someone rings up to complain. Surely good advice. Last week we did have a power cut, and we rang up after lunch to enquire what was happening, using a mobile phone. The operator checked her information, and then told us that there was a technical fault in our local area. They would now attend to it as soon as they could. As we contemplated our darkened house and lack of ovencooked dinner she signed off, in English, "Have a nice day!"

PAMELA & ROBERT PATTEN, Caldas da Rainha

Post boxes in Portimão vandalised

SIR, On Sunday, 31 October, I posted 10 letters (destinations USA, South Africa and Australia) in good faith at the Post Office in Praça Texeira Gomes, Portimão.

On Tuesday, 2 November I went back to the Post Office to buy stamps. To my horror I found a notice [on the post boxes] OUT OF ORDER (see Photo below) - and the post box in which I had posted my letters, taped up as it had been broken into. I went into the Post Office to ask what had happened and where were the letters? The personnel all roared with laughter and had a job to talk. What I could gather was that all [the] letters were destroyed. I had to contact each person I wrote to, to ask if they had received my letter. I have had to rewrite all 10 of the letters.

Christmas, not Winterval

In these days when we are constantly becoming aware of the marginalisation of Christians in Britain, it was refreshing and encouraging to hear a public official reminding everyone of the basis on which the common law of the country is founded.

JUDY PINTO, Portimão

The judge at the trial of Roshanara Choudhry, sentenced for stabbing MP Timms, contrasted Mr. Timms' Christian beliefs with the 'distorted thinking' of his attacker, who refused to recognise the court and appeared by videolink for sentencing.

"I understand that he (Mr. Timms) brings to bear his own faith, which upholds very different values from those which appear to have driven this defendant," he said. "These values are those upon which the common law of this country was founded and include respect and love for one's neighbour, for the foreigner in the land and for those who consider themselves enemies, all as part of one's love of God. These values were the basis of our system of law and justice and I trust that they will remain so, as well as motivating those, like Mr. Timms, who hold public office."

It is significant that the judge uses the past tense, stating these were the basis. It is time for these values to be reinstated. In December, we and other Christians, want to celebrate Christmas, not Winterval, even if 25 Dec. may not be the actual date of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world.

TONY LOIS HERRINGTON, By e-mail



For the second time the post boxes at the Portimão Post Office in Praça Texeira Gomes have been vandalised. Did you post any letters in this post box? If so, check whether they were received.

Portuguese for All

Emília Rosendo

Put in the Pretérito Imperfeito do Conjuntivo of the verbs in brackets.

a) Embora a mala (pesar) muito, o
rapaz levou-a para o carro sem dificuldade.
b) Eu estava de dieta e, embora
(gostar) muito dos doces que havia na festa, não
comi nenhum.
c) Os alunos certamente melhoravam o seu
rendimento se (estudar) mais.
d) Os jogadores ganhavam mais jogos se
(praticar) mais.
e) Talvez tu (comprar) um carro
novo se (poupar) mais.
f) Nós íamos convosco ao cinema se o filme não
(acabar) tão tarde.
g) Os pais não quiseram que os filhos
(brincar) no jardim porque estava a chover.
h) A Ana quis que eu lhe (emprestar)
alguns filmes de animação para ver com os netos.
i) Se tu (enviar) a encomenda ainda
hoie, tenho a certeza de que amanhã ou depois

de amanhã chegava ao destino.

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Conjuntivo. i) Os espectadores estavam desapontados, pois não queriam nem esperavam que o concerto

(terminar) tão cedo. k) A festa ao ar livre foi cancelada e adiada, pois ninguém previu que, de repente, _ (começar) a chover torrencialmente.

1) Ninguém acreditava que o jovem violinista _(tocar) tão bem ou que a jovem cantora (cantar) tão bem.

m) A mãe quis que as crianças (arrumar) os brinquedos dentro das caixas e (limpar) o pó das estantes. aue

n) O empregado pediu que nós _____ (pagar) a nossa conta com dinheiro em vez de com cartão de crédito.

o) - Meninos, eu queria que vocês não (jogar) futebol dentro de casa! Eu ficava furiosa (quebrar) os vidros ou (sujar) as paredes.

Era tão agradável se você (cozinhar) aquele seu delicioso arroz de pato para o nosso jantar.

Completed exercises can be corrected either by scanning the hardcopy onto your computer or copy and download exercises from our online pages at: www@theportugalnews.com. Send it/them as an attachment(s) via e-mail to: lessons@theportugalnews.com. Emilia Rosendo will then correct and return to your e-mail address.

Cinema **Gu**i

ALGARVE

FORUM ALGARVE TEL: 289 887 212

11 NOV-17 NOV

You Again

Kristen Bell, Jamie Lee Curtis (11.00 Sat & Sun) 14.00-16.20-18.40-21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)

The Town
Ben Affleck, Jeremy Renner 13.05-15.50-18.30-21.10 (23.50 Fri &

Marmaduke PV Owen Wilson, Lee Pace (10.20 Sat & Sun)

Devil

Chris Messina, Jacob Vargas 22.00 (00.00 Fri & Sat) Despicable Me Animation PV

(11.10 Sat & Sun) 13.20-15.30-17.40-19.50

Red

Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman (12.00 Sat & Sun) 14.25-16.50-19.15-21.40 (00.25 Fri & Sat)

The Social Network Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield (10.30 Sat & Sun) 13.15-16.00-18.45-

21.30 (00.20 Fri & Sat) Paranormal Activity 2

Sprague Grayden, Katie Featherston 13.10-15.25-17.30-19.45-21.50 (00.10 Fri & Sat)

Life As We Know It Josh Duhamel, Katherine Heigl 13.45-16.15-18.50-21.20 (23.55 Fri &

Cats & Dogs 2 - PV Chris O'Donnell, Bette Midler (10.40 Sat & Sun)

Eat Pray Love

(10.20 Sat & Sun)

Julia Roberts, Javier Bardem (12.20 Sat & Sun) 15.15-18.10-21.05 (00.15 Fri & Sat) Toy Story 3 Animation PV

(10.00 Sat & Sun) The Other Guys Mark Wahlberg, Will Ferrell 14.30-16.55-19.20-21.45 (00.25 Fri &

Sat The Owls of Ga'Hoole

CASTELLOLOPES CINEMAS **ALGARVESHOPPING** TEL: 707 220 220 11 NOV-17 NOV

Ben Affleck, Jeremy Renner 12.55-15.35-18.15-21.10 (00.05 Fri &

www.theportugalnews.com

2 Despicable Me 3D - Animation PV 12.50-14.55-17.00 Piranha 3D Elisabeth Shue, Adam Scott 19.05-21.30 (23.30 Fri & Sat)

You Again Kristen Bell Jamie Lee Curtis 13.20-16.05-18.35-21.45 (00.00 Fri & Sat)

Paranormal Activity 2

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CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS PORTIMÃO TEL: 707 220 220 11 NOV-17 NOV

The Social Network

Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield 13.10-15.50-18.30-21.30 (00.00 Fri & Sat)

Paranormal Activity 2 Sprague Grayden, Katie Featherston 13.20-16.00-18.40-21.20 (23.50 Fri &

Sat) Life As We Know It Josh Duhamel, Katherine Heigl

12.50-15.40-18.20-21.10 (23.45 Fri &

Chris Messina, Jacob Vargas 13.40-16.20-19.00-22.00 (00.20 Fri & Sat)

The Other Guys

Mark Wahlberg, Will Ferrell 13.30-16.10-18.50-21.50 (00.15 Fri & Sat)

Despicable Me 3D - Animation PV 13.00-15.10-17.20-19.30 The Town Ben Affleck, Jeremy Renner 21.40 (00.10 Fri & Sat)



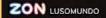
Castello Lopes Cinemas

Tel: 707 220 220 www.castellolopescinemas.com



UCI Cinemas

Tel: 707 23 22 21 www.uciportugal.pt



Zon Lusomundo **Cinemas**

Tel: 707 24 63 62 www.zonlusomundo.pt

THE PERSON NAMED OF THE PE OV = Original Version PV = Portuguese Version THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 1

Film Classification

Red - M/12 Jackass 3D - M/I2 The Social Network - M/12 Devil - M/I2 You Again - M/I2 Piranha 3D - M/I2 Life As We Know It - M/I2 Paranormal Activity 2 - M/I6 Let Me In - M/I2 The Other Guys - M/I2 Despicable Me - M/6 The Owls of Ga'Hoole - M/6

> M/4 - Four years and over M/6 - Six years and over M/12 - 12 years and over M/16 - 16 years and over M/18 - 18 years and over



Genre: Action | Comedy | Crime Stars: Bruce Willis, Mary-Louise Parker, John Malkovich, Helen Mirren, Karl Urban, Morgan Freeman, Richard Dreyfuss, Julian McMahon Director: Robert Schwentke

Synopsis: Based on the cult DC Comics graphic novel by Warren Ellis and Cully Hammer.

Frank, Joe, Marvin and Victoria used to be the CIA's top agents - but the secrets they know just made them the Agency's top targets. Now framed for assassination, they must use all of their collective cunning, experience and teamwork to stay one step ahead of their deadly pursuers and stay alive. To stop the operation, the team embarks on an impossible, crosscountry mission to break into the top-secret CIA headquarters, where they will uncover one of the biggest conspiracies and cover-ups in government history





Title: Jackass 3D Genre: Documentary | Action | Comedy Stars: Johnny Knoxville, Bam

Margera, Ryan Dunn, Steve-O,

Chris Pontius, Jason 'Wee Man' Acuña, Preston Lacy Director: Jeff Tremaine Synopsis: Jackass 3D follows the same premise as the past two movies and the television series. It is a compilation of various pranks, stunts and skits, and essentially has no plot. Some of the stunts that were featured in the movie included tether ball being played with a beehive filled with Africanized bees, a tooth being pulled out with a Lamborghini, using super glue to take off chest hair and much more







THURSDAY 18/11/10

WEDNESDAY 17/11/10

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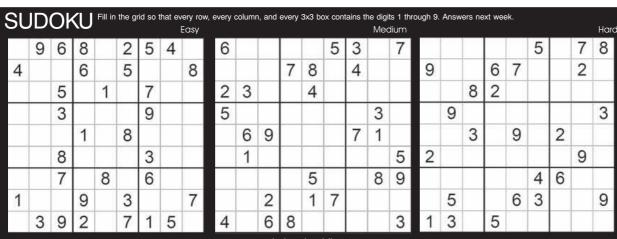
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Dancing - It Takes

34 takeabreak

The Portugal News • 13 Nov 2010



CODEWORD

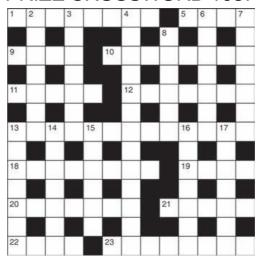
Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. Decipher the code to fill in the crossword. Three letters are already in place and the check-box and letters either side will help you keep track of progress.

(Right: Last week's solution)

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PRIZE CROSSWORD 1087



This week's Crossword Prize

Swiggies - a hands free drink bottle for every activity and an aid for the less capacitated.

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ACROSS

- 1. Once (8)
- 5. Aid (4) 9. 20 quires (4) 10. Award (8)
- 11. Edge (5) 12. Inform (7)
- 13. Urging (13) 18. Compare (8)
- 19. Storm (4)
- 20. Antiquated (7) 21. Creek (5)
- 22. Thaw (4)
- 23. Briskness (8)

DOWN

- 2. Exceed (7)
- 3. Souvenir (7)
- 4. Listless (13) 6. Elusive (7)
- 7. Stop (7)
- 8. Fall (6)
- 13. Cry out (7) 14. Sneering (7) 15. Fantastic (6)
- 16 Sailor (7) 17. Ignore (7)
- A set of Swiggies will be sent to the sender of the first correct solution drawn next Thursday. Solutions by post to: The Portugal News Crossword N° 1087, Apt. 13, 8401-901 Lagoa, or by fax to: 707941201, or scan and e-mail to: Sherry@theportugalnews.com. **(Be sure to enclose your name, address and phone number**.)

WORDSEARCH

Find the hidden words within the square. The word may start anywhere and go in any direction.

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See if you can find 6 differences







Last week's solution:



A weekly guide to the latest and the best properties on the market in Portugal • The Portugal News • 13 Nov 2010

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

A beautiful 3 bedroom rustic house by the Silver Coast



This week, Property of the week features a bargain rustic 3 bedroom property located just a short distance from Portugal's beautiful western Silver Coast.

This beautiful three bedroom rustic house is located near the Atlantic ocean, just a short drive from the beaches of São Martinho do Porto and Foz do Arelho on the Silver Coast.

The house itself is set in natural rural surroundings, where residents can enjoy silence and peacefulness.

The gardens feature a private spacious patio area, swimming pool with Vitreo pool tiles and a barbecue, ideal for having friends and family round for fun summer parties as well as relaxed evenings.

For ease of parking, the property also offers a carport as well

as a garden machine room for storage.

The property includes a total plot area of 450 square metres squared and construction area of approximately 125 squared metres.

This rustic house, with its traditional white walls with deep blue borders, comprises of an open-plan living room with an open fireplace and wooden ceiling, a fully fitted kitchen, a bathroom, and two bedrooms.

The attic has been tastefully converted to include a third bedroom and an en-suite bathroom.

Sold unfurnished and with

pre-installation for central heating, the property is a wonderful blank canvas for any buyer looking to transform this house into a home. Its quiet location makes it the perfect property for someone looking for a tranquil home by the sea, or a seasonal holiday home with good rental potential for those who want to escape the tourist crowds and see another side of Portugal.

The demand for properties on the Silver Coast has been growing steadily over the years as transport links to Lisbon and the Algarve have been improving, with drive times of just 45



minutes to the capital.

The area is home to stunning beaches and cliffs, quaint fishing villages, lush rolling countryside and some of the most fascinating historic sites in Portugal.

Here you can discover pretty villages and a real Portuguese way of life.

This property is priced at £195,000. For further information, please contact Villa Luz, Lda on +351 262 989 452

or +351 919 054 792.

Alternatively email officepaula@silver-coastproperties.net or visit their website, available n English at www.silver-coastproperties.net.















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Villas Luz, Lda

AMI nº 3728

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neighb. w/ sunny bedro nice rustic decoration inside Surrounding area w/ garden mature trees & panoramic views to the woods. 320.000 Euros





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VII AMOURA

T1 apartament green areas, con and tennis court. Next to Pinhal Golf Course and Hilton Hotel. Around 15 mins walk to maintenance with the Mind and tennis court. Next to Pinhal Golf Course and Hilton Hotel. Around 15 mins walk to marina. Furnished and equipped, Lounge w/ fireplace. Terrace facing garden and swimming pool. Recently refurbished. Private parking for 1 car. Good investment (easy to rent).

Price: € 127,500



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A/1905

1 bedroom apartment excellently located in Vilamoura Marina. Closed complex with reception, restaurant, bar, two swimming pools and tennis court. Constructed area of 80 sq.m. Furnished and equipped. A/c. Underground parking space for one car. Absolutely stunning views of the Marina, sea and country. Excellent investment opportunity.

Price: € 290.000



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One bedroom apartment with sea view comprising 1 bathroom, lounge with dining area, kitchenette, storage and 2 terraces. Furnished and equipped Communal swimming pool and garden area. Const. area - 60 sq.m.

Price: € 140.000,00



Attached villa comprising 2 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms, lounge with dining area and fireplace, equipped kitchen and storage. Terraces and roof terrace Furnished and equipped. Communal swimming pool and garden area. Const. area - 105 sq.m. Ref: V12687

Beautiful villa composed of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with fireplace, dining room, kitcen, storage and terraces. Barbecue, carport, swimming pool and garden. Furnished and equipped. Plot area - 425 sq.m. Const. area - 128 sq.m

Price: € 425.000,00



Renovated attached villa composed of 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge with dining area and fireplace, equipped kitchen, laundry room, storage and roof terrace. Garage, swimming pool, garden and barbecue. Plot area - 256 sq.m. Const. area - 183 sq.m. Ref: V12686 Price: € 460.000,00



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& access to Patio w/ BBQ, a bedroom o/ fifce in
ground floor. 1st floor has 3 bedrooms (1 en sine)
w/ laminate flooring & access to balconies.
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some hathrooms alarm and double plazing in d double glazing.
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Electric



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Get those jobs done with help from DIY guru Julia Gray.

Top tips for... building a fence

• Plants are starting to die back in the garden, so it's a good time to erect any fences. Check with your local council first in case you need planning permission, as restrictions apply in some cases.

· You should also consider who's responsible for the boundary you're fencing because it may not be you. If you're pulling an old fence or wall down, you do, of course, need to check that you own it first, or get permission from the neighbour who does.

• Choose between fence panels, available in various sizes, and close-board fencing, where you build up the fence one (vertical) plank of wood at a time. The latter is more time-consuming but flexible, as you can fit the fence posts any distance apart - around 240cm is ideal in a sheltered spot, or 180cm in an exposed spot or if the fence will be higher than 140cm.

· Like all wooden products fences should be sourced from responsibly managed forests. They should also be treated with preservative to prolong their life. If they're not, you'll have to do this yourself, not forgetting any ends that result from cutting the posts and boards or panels to size.

• To protect a fence post against the elements, put it in a bucket of wood preservative for at least an hour if it will be below ground level, or for at least five minutes if not. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when applying the preservative, especially the safety advice. You may also want to stain the fence when it's up exterior wood stains come in all sorts of colours these days, so don't think that your fence has to be boring brown.

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Askthe expert...

Q: I'm not very good at wallpapering. Is there any easy way to do it?

A: The best advice I can give you is to use paste-the-wall wallpaper. As the name suggests, you apply the paste directly to the wall, rather than to the wall-paper. The main advantage of this is that you don't have to wait for the paste to soak into the paper and then deal with long, soggy lengths of it, which can be tricky. Wallpapering isn't par-ticularly easy, but it is made easier with paste-the-wall.





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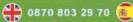


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** PROPERTYgardens





Good enough to eat - protect cauliflowers from frost

Cauliflower curds can be discoloured and damaged by severe frost followed by a rapid thaw, so bend the uppermost leaves over the developing curds to protect them from the elements Alternatively, protect them from adverse weather conditions with a windbreak made of plastic netting or old deckchair ma-

Look out for varieties which are extremely hardy and will withstand the worst winter weather and are therefore ideal in cold districts. These varieties include 'Aalsmeer', 'Evita' and 'January King'.

Cauliflowers are a greedy veg so they need well-manured, moist soil for best results. Summer varieties can be sown in early spring, others a few weeks later, under glass or outdoors. Harvest them while the heads are still firm and tight.





Three ways to... make the most of a raised bed

- 1. Fill it with the most appropriate soil for your crop.
- 2. Grow produce in short rows or small blocks, so reducing the chance of gluts and excess veg which you can't use.
- 3. Plant closer to obtain optimum yields, as the planting and sow ing are concentrated in deep soil with high fertility



Best of the bunch - Box (Buxus)

evergreen stalwarts provide the perfect topiary specimens outside front doors and add a touch of class on patios and at entrances to steps. Many people use them for hedging, as the stems bearing small and glossy leaves can be clipped regularly and make box an ide for formal hedging. It also withstands windy conditions and will survive in some shade and alkaline soil. The most popular type is B. sempervirens, the common

box, which will grow to 3m(10ft)or more if left untrimmed and is widely grown as a hedge, planted in pots or trimmed into balls, pyramids or other topiary shapes. For dwarf hedges or edging beds, go for something more compact such as 'Suffruticosa' Box thrives in partial shade but will tolerate full sun if the soil does not dry out. Grow it in moist, well-drained soil. It thrives on chalky soil or in pots of loambased compost.



Hannah Stephenson's tips on how to use evergreens in the garden to perk up borders and containers - plus, find out what else needs doing in the garden this week.

Borders can look so lifeless at this time of year as perennials have died down while deciduous trees have shed their leaves, which is where evergreens come into their own.

Of course, some might just associate evergreens with the columnar conifers so often dotted in among other specimens in the flower border to give height, structure and some colour throughout the year, but you can also feature evergreens in rock gardens, as feature plants in the shrub border and to add vibrance and form to containers

Of course, the usual evergreen suspects include azaleas, heathers and laurels but with careful suiting and siting, there's a wealth of evergreens which can provide so much more interest.

Don't think that evergreen is just green - look for flowering evergreens which can provide a splash of colour when flowers are non-existent. Plant Choisva ternata 'Sundance' to give the border a yellow feature, or Photinia fraseri 'Red Robin' to provide dazzling red foliage in

Pepper the border with variegated specimens such Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald 'n' Gold', which is spotted with gold to give an eye-catching contrast to other less colourful plants in winter.

Aim to include both colourful evergreens and deciduous shrubs with either fine flowers or stunning autumn foliage. In general, shrubs tend to go at the back and in the middle of the border, herbaceous perennials at the middle and in front Aim to have around the same number of evergreen and deciduous shrubs and trees.

It's not only winter when evergreens can come into their own. You may have thought conifers were boring, but they can be used effectively within a hot colour scheme to produce a modern look and are ideal as a feature planting within a low maintenance gravel garden.

For a really hot combination try Crocosmia 'Lucifer' with its pendant arches of red flowers alongside the conifer Thuja 'Rheingold'. The Thuja's adult foliage, a rich, deep old gold, is brilliant in winter as the cold temperature enhances the colour even thunbergii 'Darts Red Lady' with bright yellow heleniums and this will give real warmth all year around.

Conifers can be used to create a classy combination for a sunny position with an emphasis on contrasting colours from the cool end of the colour spectrum.

Use the upright columnar Juniperus chinensis 'Pyramidalis' with its prickly glaucous leaves in combination with the purple-leaved smoke bush Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple'. Add the silver aromatic leaves of Artemesia 'Powis Cas-tle' underplanted with the ground Persicaria hugging affinis 'Darjeeling Red' with its bright red flowers and large deep-green

Conifers are low-maintenance plants, requiring only occasional trimming, provide shelter for garden wildlife all year and are a favourite of goldcrests and coal tits, providing structure by adding height to delineating areas.

Avoid grouping too many similar conifers together. Go for some contrast and add colour with blue, orange, yellow and gold types. There are even conifers that turn mauve in the winter such as Crytomeria japonica 'elegans compacta' which look stunning against snow.

They can also be used as a background to other plants. Try dark green behind flaming-red tulips, or blue-grey foliage behind red or

blue flowering plants.
Remember though that evergreen doesn't necessarily mean indestructible. Make sure the plant is suitable for the place you're going to put it because an evergreen is not always winter

And ensure that the variety of shrub or tree you are choosing is evergreen, especially when the genus is a wide one. Check the labels of lonicera, berberis, viburnum and rhododendron, for instance, of which there are both evergreen and deciduous varie-

Helenium.





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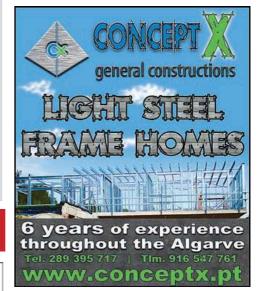
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4 goodfood



Throughout his career, Marco Pierre White has prided himself on bringing the world's finest food to the plates of openmouthed diners.

The youngest chef ever to be awarded three Michelin stars (at the age of 33), Pierre White was lauded by critics for his intricate creations before he notoriously returned his stars in 1999 and retired from his kitchen.

That seems a world away from his current cooking philosophy which, as the title of his new book tells you, is all about making things easy.

"Too often cookery books try too hard and therefore they make the reader try too hard," says Pierre White, now 48.

"I just don't get it, life is complicated enough without introducing stress into the kitchen." In Marco Made Easy, then,

In Marco Made Easy, then, the Leeds-born presenter of Hell's Kitchen keeps things simple, while still aiming for big flavour.

He cuts back on complicated presentation, difficult methods and long lists of ingredients.

"The idea dawned on me when I was at my pub, the Yew Tree near Newbury, and I was eating steak tartare. There are a number of ingredients in it that come from a jar, so I thought if these companies have put so much time and effort into making something that tastes so delicious, why turn your back on them? Why not use them in your

"The principle is that there's one ingredient in each recipe you might have to buy in, and the rest will come from the store cupboard."

The cover of the book shows Pierre White standing alongside bottles of ketchup, vinegar, Worcestershire sauce and a jar of mustard. It continues his previous idea, seen on Hell's Kitchen, of using everyday ingredients, such as Knorr stock cubes.

There is also an element of repetition in the book. It's not laziness on Pierre White's part, however. He says it's about encouraging novices to broaden the range of dishes they can make.

"People can be frightened of cooking, they get what I call 'the fear of the stove'," says Pierre White. "You'll see in the book Marco mellows to the easy life

The Hell's Kitchen presenter explains why he's keeping things simple in his new book Marco Made Easy. The legendary Michelinstarred chef talks to Andy Welch about making great food from everyday ingredients such as mustard, ketchup and Worcestershire sauce.

that there might be eight recipes with the same ingredient, eight fillet steak recipes and so on, and after you've done those, you will never fear cooking steak again."

"You don't have to use fillet, you could change it to rib-eye, rump or sirloin, but the idea is building a repertoire and getting rid of that fear."

"In the instructions, I also say 'to your taste' a lot too, and that's not me being vague, it's about giving control to the cook in the kitchen, so they enjoy what they're making. It's a very thoughtful book, if I say so myself!"

The book was created over the course of 11 days in the kitchen of Pierre White's restaurant called Marco which is situated within Chelsea Football Club's Stamford

Bridge ground.

Other than compiling a list of main ingredients he wanted to use, Pierre White didn't plan the

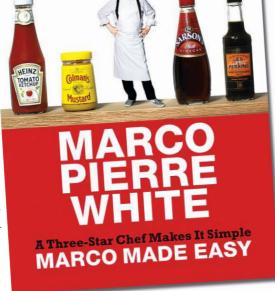
book in great detail beforehand. He merely turned up with cowriter James Steen, a photographer and, of course, his trusted personal assistant and driver Mr Ishii, and started cooking.

"Many of the dishes have been inspired by things I've made throughout my career," he says. "The smoked salmon plate, for example, is something we used to do at The Box Tree in Ilkley, but simplified."

"I also wanted to use a few ingredients that you don't see in many cookbooks, like liver, and there's a great recipe with double pork chops. You'll have to ask your butcher for those, but I've put six recipes in the book so it's worth getting them.

They're fantastic."
"After I'd made the dishes, if I thought things had gotten too complicated, I'd simply knock off a few ingredients, keeping the main elements without sacrificing taste. I'm well aware people might not cook because a recipe looks intimidating or has

too many ingredients.
"This book is all about big flavours, great ingredients, simple recipes and encouraging people to try something new."



Marco Made Easy by Marco Pierre White, published by Orion.



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Season the crab meat to your taste with a drop or three of lemon juice, a little salt and olive oil.

Carefully peel the avocado and slice it in half horizoncarefully, so that you end up with a top and bottom. Remove the stone and slice away the base so that the avocado bottom is flat underneath and can stand up on a plate.

Fill the centre of the avocado with crab meat and put the top half of the avocado on the crab meat.

. Using a pastry brush, paint olive oil on the avocado and on to the herbs. Stick the herbs on to the side - the oil should



Fillet steak with shallots and Dijon mustard

4 large shallots (or 2 large onions), very finely sliced 4 fillet steaks (about 180g each) Dijon mustard, to your taste

A handful of fresh flat leaf parsley, to garnish In a frying or saute pan, melt the butter; add the shal-lots and saute them until soft and golden. Drain them in a colander, but keep the butter because you'll need it in

Return the pan to the heat and pour in a tablespoon of olive oil. Add the steaks and fry for 3-4 minutes on each side, turning them once only. Remove the pan from the heat and allow the steaks to rest in the pan in a warm part of the kitchen for 5-10 minutes.

Using a pastry brush, paint the Dijon mustard on top of each steak and then spoon on the golden shallots. Reheat the shallot butter and pour it over the steaks.

Top with the chopped parsley. Beautiful!



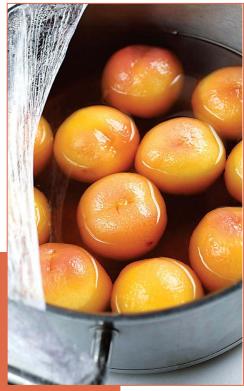
Peaches poached in Champagne

1 bottle Champagne (or Prosecco) 600g caster sugar

In a casserole or ovenproof dish combine the Champagne and the sugar. Bring to the boil and stir so that the sugar dis-

Put the peaches in the liquid and put an upturned plate on top of them to keep them submerged in the liquid. Turn down the heat and simmer gently for about 10 minutes, or until the

tip of a knife can penetrate the peach without resistance. Remove from the heat and allow the fruit to cool in its own



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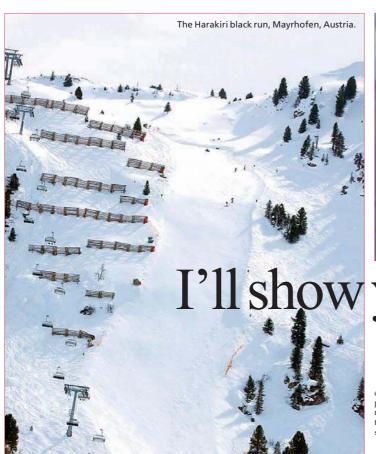
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46 trave





I'll show you to your igloo

The weather may be on the turn here but it's a lot colder in an ice hotel! Nicky Burridge takes to the Austrian slopes.

The view is dramatic. On a cold, clear night, the mountain peaks are illuminated by the moonlight which bounces off the snow, turning everything silver.

I stand close to the fire,

stamping my feet to keep warm. Far below, a procession of twinkling lights means 300 people are making their way up the mountainside carrying flaming torches.

In the background I can hear the DJ warming up: it's party night at the White Lounge.

Located at 2,000 metres in Mayrhofen, in the Tyrol region of the Austrian Alps, the White Lounge igloo hotel is rebuilt from scratch each year.

It consists of 10 individual igloo suites and a larger igloo, used as a dining area, all made of snow and ice. The adjacent White Lounge bar is the scene of tonight's party. Every Tuesday night 300 people come up from the valley for the Igloo Party, to dance in the two indoor ice bars or hang out in the open-air snow bar, sipping the White Lounge's signature hot cocktails.

But unlike most of the guests, who go back down the mountain by cable car at the end of the night, I will be staying on, sleeping in one of the igloos.

I have always wanted to spend a night in an ice hotel. But, closer to bedtime, I feel increasingly apprehensive. The igloos are beautiful inside,

The igloos are beautiful inside, but so cold you can see your breath. The ceilings are high, with ice sculptures carved into the





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To my relief, I'm not sleeping on the ice itself, but on a waterbed covered in animal skins set into a raised platform of ice, and there is a thick fourseason sleeping bag.

Once inside this, I feel surprisingly cosy, although I am wearing multiple layers. I am also plagued by the fear of a trek across the snow in the early hours to the communal bathroom

Outside, the temperature drops to minus 12C. In the igloo itself, it hovers around minus 1C - cold enough to freeze the contents of my water bottle by the morning - and when I wake up everything is covered in conden-

But any discomfort is more than worth it, as I stand with my fingers curled around a mug of peppermint tea, watching the ring of mountain peaks turn pink as the sun rises, smug in the knowledge that I will be the first person to hit the slopes today

Mayrhofen is popular with the young crowd, particularly snowboarders, and has a vibrant après ski scene - a concept the Austrians claim they invented. The French word universally used to describe post-skiing partying originally referred to the fur-lined boots people put on after skiing.

For the intrepid, the resort also boasts the Harakiri. Austria's steepest ski slope, a black run with an average incline of 38 degrees. Not for the fainthearted, and certainly not for

A relative newcomer in skiing terms, Zillertal, made up of Mayrhofen and four other resorts, opened in 1979. It has 649km of ski runs, and ski passes cover the whole region, with ski areas linked by a free shuttle bus.

The pistes are immaculate, uncrowded, and with wide runs for all abilities. Queues for ski lifts are non-existent, which Tyroleans use to justify leisurely four-course lunches.

The land is still owned by farming families who have worked it for gen-

erations and continue to farm it in summer. Cows which graze the mountains during the summer reduce the risk of avalanches, as they churn up the grass and make it better able to hold the snow.

The region's farming heritage is also evident in the wooden chalets or Tyrolean alm huts dotting the slopes. They're a great place to relax and admire the

mountain scenery.

Given the weak pound, nowhere in Europe feels cheap at the moment, but neither is Austria breathtakingly expensive.

A 330ml glass of cola at pisteside chalets costs around €2.5, a cup of coffee comes in around three euros and small beers from €3.5. Expect to pay seven to eight euros for a simple lunch, such as wurst and chips, although there is plenty of high-end dining available for those who want it.

> The wine cellar reflects the hallowed space of a crypt, and is lined with bricks taken from old houses in Vienna long demolished. The overall effect is that of a room that feels far older than

re-

Pine features strongly in individual suites. The owners claim that spending a year in one of their rooms boosts your life by one week due to the health benefits of the pine aroma

Each room has its own infrared sauna, plus TV, DVD player and iPod dock. The end wall offers stunning mountain views, with sliding glass doors opening to a private terrace.

area, with sauna, steam room and sun loungers. A hot tub is also The Tyroleans' love of their

them for the next generation. There is also a heavy empha-

sis on local produce, which guests at the Wedelhutte savour in a five-course gourmet dinner.

"The hay butter," our host enthuses, "is so called because it comes from cows fed only grass or hay, never silage. This makes it taste sweet. It is the best butter." And I am inclined to

The hotel also has a wellbeing au Grand Marnier with mari-

landscape and traditions is clear, and they intend to preserve

All the food is delicious. A starter of spiced beef is followed by curry foam soup with grilled prawns, one of the best things I have ever tasted. The main course, chine of veal with parsley puree, is followed by parfait

www.wedelhutte.at.

pass from €193 covers all resorts.

nated berries. delicious After cheeses, meals tend to be fin-ished off with a glass of schnapps, about which the Austrians are nuts. Apricot and pear are popular flavours, as well as a distinctive pine

schnapps made from local trees which only grow at altitudes between 1,500m and 2,000m. The Tyrol tourist board says this region offers terrific value

for skiers. Prices may not be the

cheapest, but the quality is ter-

Top left: The wine cellar

Left A suite at the Wedelhutte hotel.

flew to Innsbruck with EasyJet

Party night package at The White Lounge Igloo, Mayrhofen at

The five-star Wedelhutte hotel offers half-board accom in a

€133 incl B&B and evening meal in Igloo. Visit www.white-

Junior Suite from €149 per night. Reservations:

Standing on my balcony as the sun rose over the mountains and contemplating another perfect day of skiing. I could see their

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place to pick up medication, you may not be using it to its full potential. Lisa Salmon speaks to pharmacists about the services they offer, and looks at how they play a vital part in front-line health care.

For most people with a health problem, their first port of call is the local GP. But another service can provide reliable health advice -andeventhe odd diagnosis-without an appointment: your local pharmacy.

There are thousands of community pharmacies and they're visited two billion times each

As well as fulfilling their traditional role of dispensing medicines, many pharmacies can prescribe treatments for minor ailments, offer smoking counselling and provide screenings - to name but a few of their services.

Yet while 96% of people can get to a pharmacy from their home within 20 minutes, either by walking or using public transport, few people are aware of the variety of help on offer.

"People aren't clued up about

the range of services available on their doorstep to maintain their health," says UK's National Pharmacy Association (NPA) spokesman Stephen Fishwick.

"In recent years, community pharmacy has expanded its role, and now provides a wide range of clinical and public health services, within reach of the people who need them most."

"We aim to get across the vi-tal role that pharmacy plays on the front line of health care and at the heart of communities."

He points out that many people could avoid having to wait for an appointment, and travel less if they headed to their local pharmacist more often. He adds: "People who aren't

using their pharmacy to its full extent may also be using other parts of the health service unnecessarily, and putting pressure on



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Pharmacists, who receive five years' pharmacological and medical training, know exactly when a referral to another healthcare professional is advisable.

general practice and A&E."

A survey by the NPA found that nine in 10 people visit a pharmacy at least once a year, but that those who go don't always know what services are available

The NPA survey found that few people are aware, for example, that the large majority of community pharmacies have consultation areas, which can be used for consultations about medicines, cholesterol and blood pressure checks.

"There's a big gap in public awareness about what's available on their doorstep," says Fishwick.

"When you consider that the

number of people who go into pharmacies frequently far outstrips the number of people who go to a GP practice, you have this opportunity to reach the public on a scale that's unmatched anywhere else in the health service.

"The pharmacy is a good first point of contact for dealing with the vast majority of health con-

"Pharmacists are available without appointment - which is pretty unique for a health-care professional - and are able to deal with a growing range of ailments themselves."

He stresses that pharmacists. who receive five years' pharmacological and medical training, know exactly when a referral to another healthcare professional is advisable.

"Pharmacists are the experts on medicines, and have a role in most areas of health where a medicine's involved.

"But a community pharmacist won't make a diagnosis for a major disease. If they suspect a problem, then they'll refer the patient to their GP for tests and a formal diagnosis.



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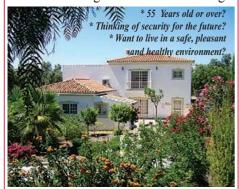
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Fishwick stresses that many of the services that people associate with nursing and GPs are now more available in pharmacies. "It requires a mindset shift for a lot of people to understand that it's

happening and is appropriate.
"Pharmacists don't want to be mini-GPs though - they want to be maxi-pharmacists, used to their full extent."

Pharmacist Cath Boury, of Newland Community Pharmacy in Hull, agrees and confirms that many people just don't know what services are on offer.

"Patients are often surprised at the breadth of services available at my pharmacy," she says.

"They're taken aback that we do one-to-one consultations to help give up smoking.'

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dental treatment?

Boury stresses that she hopes people who visit her pharmacy feel comfortable to ask anything they want about their health and social care.

"Once they get used to the idea, people are delighted that they can come to me for services they thought they could only get

What services do pharmacies offer?



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The Portugal News • 13 Nov 2010 paws, claws & hooves 51

Keeping warm and safe

I don't think I am alone in my dislike of dark evenings. Clocks have been back for one week and the whole place is spooky much earlier---not helped by our burglaries recently and friends who have suffered the same. So not being able to track down my very silly black dogs is suddenly a top priority again.

So I have decided I must practice what I preach. I must get my furkids some of the rather gorgeous reflective collars and leads, they really do work. We have some with the reflective pawprints and others with the $thread\, running\, through.\, They\, do$ the slip leads and harnesses as well, so a good choice. Once mine have their new winter wear I can safely let them run down my long drive, at the moment they could easily disappear for hours in the dark. Especially on a 'no moon' night.

The other very good addition. especially for people who walk dogs beside roads, are the re-flective jackets, we have the very small vest type and the full coats as modelled by Cleo, My PWDs, as regular readers know, have their own bright yellow trouser suits, we have some in the shop---Julie will not walk them in trousers BUT you can see them so they have the desired effect, they are warm, waterproof and can be seen. Poor Cleo and Merlin do have to do some daft posing!

On to the keeping warm, yes the fleece jumpers are fabulous, especially for dogs that live outside or, as I have used them, when a dog is sick and perhaps cannot maintain a decent temperature. Sandy 'lived' in hers last winter as she was so thin by then---I have been surprised by how cold the winter nights can be here. We also have some lovely little coats for little dogs, warm fleecy ones

We have a very large range of cosy beds, Vet beds, Waterproof beds and the fabulous Merino beds, Cassie can amazingly, and does, still get in hers, no room for hermonkey now though! My dogs love these beds and they are really wearing very well, on year four now. Washing them has not been the ordeal I foresaw and the new ones are even better than my old ones as the duvets are all in sections for washing. With mine I wash them in the garden with a scrubbing brush and hose down, they come out as good as new. I then bless the fact I live here and not in a constant rainy country where I would have muddy feet in the house all the time.

Talking of rain---and it will. We have the fabulous Paw Plungers in stock. Wonderful for a muddy Merlin and his white paws. It comes with brushes inside which just gently brush the mud off the fur. We have a special discount price at the moment----please present this article when visiting the shop. YES we can hose him down I know but this way is far

less invasive and if it is in the middle of a Portuguese 'shower', read, downpour, at least you can use the Paw Plunger in the house! We have been asked recently

for the soft water bowls to take out on walks with you, they just go in your bag---we now have some in stock having sold out during the summer months. I have one I take everywhere then if I am in cafes I can just get some water from them for whichever pooch is with me.

Please come and see us we are always happy just to talk, to help with any problems you

Nice and comfy...

have. If you need anything we have not got in stock we will make every effort to get the item

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Milo & Me

I absolutely dread it when it

starts raining.

Not only can we not get any clothes dry but the lawn becomes soggy, walks to the beach are fewer and further between and the dog gets smelly and damp.

Don't get me wrong, I appreciate its winter, we need the water and the streets are much fresher for a shower or two, but Milo - who loves water - certainly does not get fresher after a shower or two In fact he positively stinks. And the fact that we have holes in our garden that he loves to roll in when they're all sodden just adds to the aggravation. He's like a pig in mud.

Before it started raining he already had a bit of a thing for the hosepipe. He loves it when the hosepipe is on; he tries to bite the water that spurts out and gets really into it. He finds the pressure entertaining as the hosepipe tends to move by itself like a snake, and he can pounce on it.

And he loves having a bath, which, when water is combined with shampoo, is fantastic.

But when the water is rainwater and there's no shampoo in sight, it ain't so great. And because it's getting colder it's not like I can just hose him down and give him a quick scrub to smell all delicious again

Our previous hosepipe was rather old and used to drip at the bit where the pipe meets the tap. Milo would sit for ages waiting for the drips to fall, until he started nibbling the plastic joining and found that the drips turned into spurts then into jets of water, and eventually one day I turned on the hosepipe full blast and the whole thing flew away from the tap, the water hit the tiles and drenched me from the hip down.

The dog, obviously, thought that was brilliant fun and a great achievement. He's since taught himself how to turn the tap on and figured out that if he does that, and then vanks the pipe away from the tap, he can have loads of fun.

We didn't know about his newfound skills though until one day we came home from work and found a note from the maid saying "You have to do something about the dog; he opened the tap downstairs and if I hadn't been here you would have come home to a reception that no one would want.

We decided it was easier to do something about the tap than it was to do something about the dog, so now we leave a mini-fortress (a stack of chairs and wooden boards) around the offending object.

But when it's not raining we do still love a walk to the beach.

I went the other day with Milo and my Other Half's sixyear-old. Milo found a huge bucket full of rotting fish, which had obviously been discarded by a fisherman, and decided to tuck in, much to my disgust and my little companion's delight. And when I tried to drag him away from his find he'd just run off, much to my disgust and my little companion's delight...no amount of 'Milo here's, 'Milo come's or 'Milo, what have I got's did the trick.

After 30 minutes of exhausting efforts I finally managed to grab Milo and attach him to the lead, giving him a proper telling

off to go with it (secretly I was absolutely fuming).

But as it happens it turned out to be my entire fault anyway.

Apparently, as my companion informed me, he's a German dog and(silly me) will only understand German. So he's so naughty because he doesn't understand a word I'm saying and I should have known this! So that solved all our problems! I'm enrolling on a German-language course as soon as I can as the few words I do know I don't think are appropriate for training the dog with..

Carrie-Marie Bratley



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Beat the bullies

Bullying isn't just a problem for the victims - it's a problem for society. Lisa Salmon looks at the weird, wonderful and sometimes weary world



Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA), which stresses that other children, parents and schools often know bullying is occurring, and it's everyone's responsibility to try to beat it.

That's why the ABA has adopted the theme of 'Taking Action Together'.

It wants everyone in the community - parents, teachers and children - to work together to create a society where bullying isn't tolerated and where everyone responds to bullying quickly

and appropriately.
The ABA says around 25% of children suggest they've experienced bullying in the past year or so, and it's known that bullying can be fuelled by the action or lack of action of the bystander.

This could be a child or adult who sees bullying but doesn't act, a parent who offers little support, or a school which doesn't take positive steps to prevent bullying.

This Anti-Bullying Week the ABA wants to encourage every-one in the community to pledge to take action against bullying. This could be a teacher making sure they regularly include anti-

policy. Sue Steel, ABA national manager, explains: "We want to remind everyone - the children, the parents, the teachers, the whole

bullying messages in their lessons, or a community club de-

veloping a clear anti-bullying

preventing bullying is about respectful behaviour and kind-

"Those things need to be essential components of any school or community group, and





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day-to-day dealings with other people. Everyone has a role to

play."
The ABA also stresses that while the idea of a bullying bystander may normally take the form of a child who sees bullying and then either takes part in it or ignores what's going on, there are other types of bullying by-

"We think you can also be a bystander if you're a school that's not implementing its policy correctly, or not dealing with bullying issues robustly."

"In terms of young people, you're standing by and not doing enough."

In a similar way, if a parent hasn't talked to a child about how to stay safe online when using social networking sites, for exam ple, there's a sense in which they're standing by and cyberbullying could take place.

Steel warns that it's unhelpful to suggest that there's a type of child who bullies or who is bullied, as it suggests there's nothing that can be done about it.

"All sorts of children bully, and children are bullied for all sorts of reasons, but it's important to acknowledge that this behaviour is happening, it's wrong and that it needs to stop."

A vital part of helping stop bullying is for bystanders to know what action to take.

'We have to recognise that it can be difficult for children to support each other when bullying occurs, even though they know it's the right thing to do,

says Steel. "We don't want to start blaming children for not doing something-we recognise that they may be concerned for their own safety, or they may be genuinely concerned that they might make the situation worse for the child that's being bullied."

This is why clear anti-bullying policies are needed in schools, she

says.
"When there's a clear policy, you're much more likely to get children feeling that they can take action, if the whole school is supporting them."

She says individual children can take a stand by refusing to pass on gossip or text messages, choosing not to watch bullying and walk away, being kind and supportive to the bullying victim, and asking them if they'd like help to tell someone.

"All these things have to be couched with what the child feels it's safe to do."

"If they feel they can they should tell a trusted adult or an older student."

Steel says parents should listen to their child if they find out they're being bullied, and discuss what they'd like to happen.

If they feel it's something they can't sort out themselves, they should talk to the school.

"See how you can all take action together to create an environment where children understand what they need to know about bullying and that it's wrong, and that if they see or experience it there are things in place that mean appropriate action will be taken."

"It's everybody's responsibility to make sure that we've got what it takes to keep people safe from bullying."

information: more For www.anti-bullyingalliance .org.uk

The lash factor Lisa Haynes finds out how to boost your eye allure with the latest ways to add length to your lashes

to add length to your lashes.

gramme might as well be re-named the Lash Factor if Cheryl Cole's girly gang have anything to do with it.

Contestants Katie Waissel, Cher Lloyd and Rebecca Ferguson have sparked a boom for donning two sets of false eyelashes.

Inspired perhaps by mentor Cheryl Cole's fluttering dark eyes, her X Factor clan have taken their lashes to new lengths on the show, prompting a beauty trend for wearing double falsies to achieve an uber-dramatic ef-

At the auditions, Katie's Shu Uemura Fleur-ever feathered numbers, were so large they overshadowed her outfit and Cher and Rebecca's long dark false lashes were of similar eyepopping proportions.

Superdrug have reported a 33% rise in false lash sales compared with last year - attributed to X Factor's lash-focused contestants. A pair sold every 30 seconds during October.

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Superdrug, Sara Wolverson said: "Sales of lashes have been climbing steadily this year but we recently saw the first of our lash peaks as customers flocked to get the X Factor look.'

"Girls are really going for that extreme look and wearing two pairs of lashes over each other."

Whether you want to fake it with onulent feathered creations or opt out of the fakery and cultiyour own extreme volumisation, there's a flutter fix out there for everyone.

For au naturel fans, this year has seen an explosion of lash conditioning mascaras and serums on the shelves that promise increased length and volume in a

Get set for the sincerest form of fluttery as the beauty scene goes to great lengths for showstopping lashes.
False fancies

With more than £10 million a vear spent on false lashes in the UK, it seems we're all going totally gaga for the glam eye acces-

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season and big occasions, stores are seeing a huge increase in demand for day-to-day wear when the mascara wand just doesn't deliver enough impact.

And when one pair disappoints? Make like Katie Price who regularly works dramatic eyes using three falsies worn layered over each

Make-up artist Jemma Kidd says: 'My top tip for easy application is, rather than trying to get the angle right by gluing only the base of the false lashes, add glue further along the length of the false lashes and press them onto the natural lash to get them lying

Mascara magic

Mascaras rarely fail to flatter lashes but the latest revolution of multi-benefit products aim to boost natural growth while you're busy batting your throughout eves the day.

Because evelashes have a limited six week life cycle at best, lash conditioning mascaras can add precious thickness ingredients like biotin and proteins to strengthen

them and reduce breakage.

While you're waiting for magnified lashes to appear, achieve the wide-eyed look by gently curling your lashes before using mascara. and then separating.

"A great technique to separate lashes without clumps is to use a lash comb. advises makeup artist, Rae Morris "Alternatively, use an old mascara wand from a previous masSerum sensations

If you're feeling short-changed on the lash front once the falsies and mascara are removed at night, turn to the magic wands of permanent eyelash lengthen-

ing.

The latest lash-growth enhancing serums to flood the market aren't overnight miracle workers but with daily use they can produce dramatic fluttery effects within two to three months as you sleep.

Use once daily in the evening before bedtime, then twice a week to maintain the enviable condi-

"Applying a lash serum to your eyelashes is important for a couple of reasons, firstly it pro-tects the lashes and secondly it can make them appear thicker," says L'Oreal Paris make-up artist Polly Osmond. "Using a serum at night will eventually help build a fuller lash fringe."



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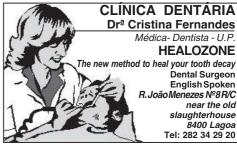
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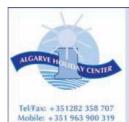
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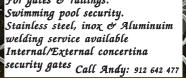
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328635. **CHURCH IN LAGOS.** Sundays 10.30am at 14, Praca Luis de Camoes.In the historical building, upper room, in the centre of the old walled city of Lagos. Messianic Assembly, Our mission Math: 28 v 18 to 20. Contact Stefan Saunders (Pastor) 963 165

os, stetanjsaunders@yahoo.co.uk LAGOA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP LAGOA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP. English Speaking Calvary chapel of the Algarve, Christ Centred study of the Bible and modern worship, Sun-day school available for toddlers to teens. Sunday services 11am Mid-week study 8pm Wednesdays. EN 125 Porches Retail Park, Vale de Lousas, Alcantarilha. Tel: 914 664 418 Pas-tor Jon Martin www.lagoafellow ship.org for more info

TAVIRA CHRISTIAN CENTRE Meet-IAVIKA CHRISTIAN CENTRE Meet-ings in English, Sundays at 10.30 am at Av. Mateus Teixeira de Azevedo, 61A (Opposite Skippers Bar) Full pro-gramme and further details from Jackie 281 322 857, Steve 917 872 665 and 917 872 559 or Maria 966 380 404. E-mail: jackieandmo@

yahoo.co.uk
RESGATE DE VIDA, LAGOS, Raising up a new generation according to EPH.4 v 11-12, Church with a Brazil-ian Flavor. Portuguese speaking, Children Welcome. Meeting on Sun-days 8pm - 10pm at Rua, Hospital S. João de Deus. For directions phone Pastors Sidney 963414757 or Anderson 962934005.

962934005 SALVATION ARMY Service Sundays at 10.45am in Portuguese. Bible stud-ies for children, adolescents and adults in Portuguese starting at 9.30 until 10.30. Rua 25 de Abril, nr. 19,

unti 10.30. Kd2 25 de Adri, nr. 19, 58o Brás de Alportel ALL NATIONS, Todas as Nações, All welcome, contempory worship serv-ice and children's club. Carvoeiro Tennis Club, Mato Serrão Carvoeiro. Sundays 10.30am-12.00pm, Luke and Shelley 913362221 EREV SHABAT - For services Tel: 282

IFHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - PUBLIC TAIK in English. The New Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 25 Largo Engo Sarrea Prado, Portimão (Next door to School Thursday 7.30pm Tel: 282 485 495. (Chinese: Saturday 4pm) No collection. ALSO Sitio de Lagoas,

Edificio Space Beautiful, Av 25 April. Ferreiras Albufeira. (Sunday 10am. School Wednesday 7.45pm Tel: 282 339 372.

Oporto

GREATER GRACE INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP has contemporary Chris-tian gatherings on Sunday after-noons at 3rd Baptist Church, Rua tian gatherings on Sunday afternoons at 3rd Baptist Church, Rua
Estacao 133, Porto, & Saturday evenings on the 1st floor at Confeitaria
Palacio, Porto (across from the "Emergency" entrance of Hospital Santo
Antonio); for meeting times, details
and updated schedule visit
www.NovaAurora.com, call 220 994
785 or send an SMS to 917 112 736.
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VNG, between Aguda railway station
and Miramar golf course. Call Tina or
Bill Mason on 227 627 643 or 914 949
611 contact@riversideporto.com or
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ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, ANGLICAN

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY OF OPORTO. Largo da Maternidade, Júlio Dinis. Sun. 11am Details from Chaplain (22) 609 1006

www.stjamesoporto.org
THE SALVATION ARMY OPORTO
Pereiro Corps (Av. Vasco da Gama No: Pereiro Corps (Av. Vasco da Gama No: 675-2 E Ramalde), Service 10am, Salvation Meeting 5.00pm. Coloras Corps. (Av. dos Bombeiros Voluntá-rios; Tel: 22 929 1077) Sun. 10am. Thurs 4.00pm Ladies Home League Meeting.

Meeting.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Praça Don Afonso V, 168.

Sunday 10.30am. Tel: 226 160 976.

Caldas da Rainha

ANGLICAN EVENING WORSHIP IN ENGLISH. At 6:00pm on the Second Sunday of each month. Held in the Evangelical Baptist Church, Rua Dr. José Saudade e Silva 27/29, between Railway Station and central 'Pingo Doce'. For details phone 262881993. No service on 14 November:- instead please attend St George's Lisbon at 10.50 am

10.50 am JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Rua Adelino Amaro da Costa, next to CERCIP. 2520 Peniche,Óbidos. Sunday 11am (1st & 2nd Sunday of the month).

Baltimore Revisited

I spent the past 10 days in Baltimore, Maryland 21208. Much had changed, but a lot had not. Most of my friends from childhood still live there. They have husbands, grown children and lots of grandchildren. They drive shiny cars, live in respectable houses and interact with each other much the same as we, our parents and grandparents did generations ago.

I am the misfit. I left Balti-more in the 70's and never lived there again. Now my Portuguese zip code, 2750-357, is rejected every time I want to order products from the USA or even apply for a credit card there even though I am still as US citizen. Also markedly different there is restaurant etiquette. Waiters dance up to the table proclaiming, "Hi, I'm Johnny and I'll be your server for the evening. They hover over you throughout your meal asking how you like the fish (never as tasty as here) and touting their fatty desserts while you are still eating your salad. The portions are so huge that I started asking to split my meals with friends instead of wasting half of them. Of course there's a surcharge for sharing as well.

Then the tipping: After 19 years of comfortable living in Portugal I have gotten used to rounding off the bill or even leaving the odd coins like my Portuguese friends do. It still feels miserly but that's the way they tip here. Not so in the USA. One evening I treated my friend Sandy to dinner at an upscale Italian restaurant. The total: 80 USD. The bill arrived with a place to sign but after the total for the meal was a line called: TIP: It would be a sacrilege to leave this line blank. So I asked, Sandy, what is the tipping custom here? "She answered " 20%" and with discomfort I wrote \$16. Johnny picked up the credit card slip looked it over and gave me a perfunctory "Thank you." My Portuguese



friend told me that she and her husband were in a New York restaurant last month and left a few coins for a tip. When they approached the door the waiter met them there and forbade them to leave until they paid the customary 15-20% tip. Aside from tipping and portion size, much about the USA felt familiar. While my friends lead lives with far more material amenities than I have become accustomed to, we do still share childhood emories and values.

As we planned our upcoming high school reunion the dynamics felt familiar. Nancy was always the leader, and at our reunion meeting she was again. Sandy, the quiet one, took the notes. I, the rebel then and probably still today, suggested some off beat activities for our party. The others talked about a visit to the local art museum. I promoted a swim in Chesapeake Bay. At our meeting two classmates came who were not in our original clique. They joined our class late in our high school years and told us they felt like outcasts socially and academically. I squirmed remembering I was not very kind to the newcomers. We were an established group and these late comers probably experienced what today is called bullying. Part of me wanted to discount their tales of teasing and struggling, but my other part, softer after life's ups and downs, wanted to apologize. I left that meeting agreeing to contact classmates whom we haven't heard from in years and also vowing to behave kindly to all who decide to attend, insid-

ers and outsiders alike. patwestheimer@gmail.com.



Announcements

SUNDAY LUNCH at the Colina Hotel, Almancil For a long relaxing Lunch call 289358792

CANCARE MEETINGS Have you been affected by Can-cer? Members of the women's cancer support group meet for advice or an infor-mal chat on the first Wednesday of every month in Loulé. If you would like to join us, please contact Vi on 289 882 680 or 917962255



CASA - IS a local social group established over 20 years ago. A friendly group who have a monthly newsletter and at least one activity per month, usually dinners at local venues. We have and annual trip to Spain or within Portugal, plus other activities. Open o everyone. For more information and a sample newsletter give Mary a call on 282 357 275.

LIONS CLUBE de Loulé Charity Sale, Sunday, November 21st. 9.30-12.00pm, Centro Comunitário, Almancil. Comunitário, Almancil. Good quality clothes, linen, bric-a-brac, books and shoes at bargain prices. Donated items always appreciated. Following Sale January 23rd - more information tel. 289416659.



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johnrussell72@gmail.com

Business Opportunities

HOTEL 12BED with large restaurant for sale or rent near Quinta do Lago, Almancil 914574199

> LANGLEY HOG Roasts - BBQ or DIY self service Ph. 912 501 752

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Charities

THE NANDI ANIMAL

Charity Christmas Fair is scheduled for 21 November, from 09:00 to 15:30 at the Mercado do Levante in Lagos. On sale will be arts and crafts by Algarye artisans and vendors, clothes, jewellery and household items and more! Enjoy delicious pastries at the Nandi Café. It's the perfect place to find special Christmas gifts. Mark your calendar and come join us! All proceeds will help the animals of the western Algarve.



AYAMONTE ANIMAL Rescue Fund Raising Craft Fair & Car Boot Sale. Calico Park 0034 959053096.

CAR BOOT Sale held every ard Sunday of the month at Restaurant 'Quinta dos Areões', adjacentto the Vet-erinary Clinic in Espiche. Stallholders pay from €3. All proceeds go to Rosco's Charity Association. Call Alfred on 919886955 or contact us on our website www.roscofoundation.org for more information.

CHARITY SHOP, Montechoro needs volunteers to help in the shop. Please ring Lesley 962 414 584

WANTED: THE Donkey Sanc tuary needs your unwanted furniture, clothes, books and bric-a-brac for our charity shops in Lagoa and Monte Carvoeiro, all proceeds to aid donkeys in distress. We will collect larger items. Call Nan Richardson 962 633 811, for details of our work for animal welfare. Please help

TAVIRA TREASURE Charity Shop. Tavira Christian Cen-tre, Av. Mateus Teixeira de Azevedo, 61A (Opposite Skippers Bar). Come and browse, come and bring clothing, bric-a-brac, books. Open Wednesdays, 2.30– 4.30 and Saturdays 10.30– 12.30. Phone 917872559/ 913617991 for further details. Volunteers needed so we can open more frequently.

CHARITY BOOK Sale & Cofrefee Morning. 2,000 nearly new paperbacks at 70c. each. All proceeds in aid of The Boy's Home in Faro. Friendly atmosphere in pleasant surroundings. Every Friday from 10am to 12 noon, in the Village Hall, Monte da Palhagueira, Goriões, Sta. Barbara de Nexe. Info. Tel: 289 990 901.

ALBUFEIRA ABA Charity shop,41D Avenida do Ténis, open Tuesday to Saturday 10h30 until 2pm (next door to the Galeano Bar) on the road that leads to the Ma-rina, from the dual carriageway. We are an independent charity, using the in-come from the shop for neutering animals. Please help us by donating items for

APAA CHARITY Shops. Cerro Grande, Albufeira, Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 2pm; Dunas do Alvor, Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 2pm and Sunday 10.30am to 1pm; Rua da Mesquita, Silves, Monday to Saturday 10am to 2pm. Good quality clothes, bric-a-brac, books, jigsaws, etc. Stock and new volunteers always welcome. Help us to help abandoned dogs and cats.

DO YOU have some spare time? Would you like to make new friends and help animals, too? Become a volunteer for the Nandi Animal Charity Shops in Lagos. Most volunteers work one Most volunteers work one half-day a week. Join us! We are a friendly group and we need you! For more information, call Susan at 918575533.

NEW CHARITY Shop opened in Guia, situated one way street 3 doors up from Restaurant Atlântico opposite carpark (3 mins from Algarve Shopping turn into Guia at Chicken Roundabout) Chicken Roundabout). Open 10h30 to 18h00 each day except Saturday (10h30 to 13h30), closed Sundays. Books, excellent quality new and nearly new clothes for men, women, children and babies, toys, puzzles, bric-abrac, towels, bed linen and many more quality items.

ASSOCIATION BIANCA, a registered Portuguese charity that runs an animal shelter near Lisbon (see more on www.bianca.pt/english) invites you to its online charity shop: http://www.fazendoanimaisfelizes. blogspot.com/You can buy or you can donate. Either way, you are helping to feed 250 dogs and 50 cats.

> Place your classified on-line and get a

Education

ENJOYABLE, EFFECTIVE Portuguese lessons. 10-day beginners course starts 25 November. Individual lessons: 2 students together pay for 1. Centro de Línguas de Lagos. Call 282761070. E m a i l info@centrodelinguas.com

WRITING CIRCLE in Lagoa Library with Jenny Grainer starting on October 12th at 10.30 then every 1st Tuesday in the month Tel: 963 iennygrainer@sapo.pt

Entertainment & Leisure

ALGARVEAN'S EXPERIMEN-TAL Theatre Group are ac tive all year and need you as a member. Are you good with a needle or do you like to paint? Happy to go on stage and perform or would you prefer to assist backstage? Young or old join in the fun. Why not take a look our website? at our website? www.thealgarveans.com. Want to be part of our group? Ring Pat on 282 695 614 or email patnlesport@hotmail.com



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Mon.: Portimão 7.30pm. Tues.: Almancil 1.00pm; Almancil 6.30pm (Men's meeting); Albufeira 8.00pm. Wed.: Almancil 7.30pm. Thurs.: Pêra 7.30pm, Tel: 919 005 590; Tavira 7.30pm. Fri.: Almancil 1.00pm; Portimão 7.30pm. Sat.: Almancil 5.30pm. Call 919 005 590, 10.00-7.30pm. Portuguese AA 917 483 478. GSO Lisbon AA Tel.: 217 162 969. We look forward to seeing you

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For further details on
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Lowly Naval hold Olhanense

Christopher Wright

Olhanense travelled to Figueira da Foz in the hope of picking up three valuable away points at bottom club Naval. But the Algarve side were in for an early surprise as Naval took the lead in the fourth minute when keeper Moretto could not hold on to a stinging cross shot and Bolivia was on hand to slot the ball home.

Olhanense were without centre-back Mauricio, suspended after accumulating five vellow cards, and Nuno Piloto still recovering from injury. Mexer came into the back four while Yontcha up-front. Olhanense's wide men, Paulo Sérgio and Jorge Gonçalves, made

little impact early on against a Naval side fighting for every ball. As the first half progressed the visitors took more control of the game and looked capable of getting an equaliser. Within six minutes of the restart the scores were

Vinicius surged forward from

midfield and his cross was headed home by Cadu for his first goal of the season. Both sides looked for the winner and Moretto saved well from Naval's Fabio Junior Bolivia.

Olhanense brought on three forwards - Djalmir, Toy and Lulinha-but were unable to score

the decisive goal. A fair result with Olhanense struggling to rediscover their early season form that took them into the top three. With some surprise results over the weekend this 1-1 draw keeps Olhanense in mid table where three points separate seven teams. FC Porto's emphatic 5-0 win over Benfica leaves them ten points clear at the top while Sporting were surprisingly beaten at home by V. Guimarães.
With 70,000 fans watching

these top two games, the remain $ing \, six \, games \, in \, the \, Premier Liga$ attracted a meagre 20,000 in total with only 1,063 turning up to watch the Algarve's other pre-mier team Portimonense draw 2-2 with Académica at the Algarve Stadium.

Olhanense entertain last seaon's 2nd Division Champions Beira-Mar at the José Arcanio Stadium, Olhão on Sunday kickoff 4.00pm. Beira-Mar had a great 3-2 win at Sp.Braga last weekend and have an identical record to Olhanense so there is all to play for.

Madeira side Nacional, riding high in 3rd place in the league, are the visitors for the 4th round of the Portugal Cup on Sunday, 21 November kick-off 4.00pm



Machado and Jardel challenge for the ball.

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64 sport





Tame Benfica thrashed by brilliant FC Porto



FC Porto players Hulk (L) and Varela celebrate after scoring a goal against Benfica during the First League football match at the Dragão Stadium, in Oporto on 7 November. (Photo: Lusa / José Coelho)

Defending Portuguese champions looked anything like the country's best football team over the weekend as they were systematically taken apart by bitter rivals FC Porto in a 5-0 drubbing. FC Porto are now ten points clear at the summit of the Portuguese Liga table and look a sure be to wrestle back from Benfica the silverware they conquered with such ease last season.

FC Porto were quick this week to quash talk that the title is already won. But a quick look at the 2009/10 league table shows that Benfica lost fewer points for the duration of last season than they have during the first ten matches of this season. Despite this poor showing, the Lisbon club has somehow managed to secure enough points to currently stand joint second with Vitoria Guimarães, but ten points adrift of the leaders.

The manner in which FC Porto demolished Benfica last Sunday evening would suggest the two clubs should be playing in different leagues.

ent leagues.

While FC Porto have more than compensated losing star players Raul Mereiles (Liverpool) and Bruno Alves (Zenit St. Petersburg), Benfica have looked

a completely different team without Angel Di Maria (Real Madrid), despite having kept their star-studded defence together.

But the defence, which includes David Luiz, Fabio Coentrão, Luisão and Maxi Pereira, and who were all linked with English Premiership clubs in the off-season, has remained unchanged and yet are struggling to emulate last season's form.

A number of leading Benfica supporters publicly called for the sacking of manager Jorge Jesus, but he was given the support of the president and looks safe in his job for now.

After the 5-0 thrashing, the manager accepted defeat but rued

some ill-fortune, saying Benfica reaped no reward from their five shots on goal in the first half, while FC Porto scored three times from their four chances.

Brendan de Beer

The next few weeks, including the club's performances in the remaining Champions League matches will be telling. FC Porto will look to continue their form this Sunday when they host the Algarve's Portimonense, while Benfica will be looking to exorcise the demons that linger from their visit to Oporto when they host bottom-club Naval in a fixture where anything but a win might see a change at who is running the club for their next league encounter at Beira-Mar on November 28.





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